

STARS AND STRIPES®

Blown save ends Gagne's two-year streak

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Cpl. Wassaf Ali Hassoun

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 2004



U.S. Sen. John Kerry



U.S. Sen. John Edwards

Kerry names running mate

Edwards to join Democrat's campaign for White House Page 12

Iraqi soldiers testing U.S. troops' patience

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First Cavalry soldiers take a poster of Muqtada al-Sadr away from the Iraqi National Guardsmen who were patrolling with them in the Sadr City neighborhood of Baghdad on Monday.

The Washington Post



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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Unwanted newborns: Since California emergency rooms began accepting unwanted newborns with no questions asked three years ago, 56 babies have been safely surrendered.

But 98 other newborns have been found alive and abandoned — often in dangerous conditions — and authorities say many young women still have not heard about the law.

The state's Safely Surrendered Baby Law allows a parent or legal guardian to confidentially surrender a newborn three days old or younger to any hospital emergency room or other designated site without fear of arrest, as long as the baby has not been abused or neglected.

Meatpacking plant shooting: Employees of a Kansas City, Kan., meatpacking plant where a co-worker went on a shooting rampage returned to work Tuesday, four days after the gunman killed five people and injured two others before killing himself.

The ConAgra Foods Inc. plant had been closed since Friday, when 21-year-old Elijah Brown opened fire during the plant's 5 p.m. break.

A steady stream of employees arrived at the plant before the 7 a.m. start of the first shift, all showing ID to security.

Reporters were not allowed into the plant. Trucks making deliveries to the plant were turned away by security guards until 8 a.m., but the reason was unclear.

ConAgra spokeswoman Julie DeYoung said the shifts would begin with an employee-meeting and short memorial service.

Arizona wildfires: Even as firefighters using slurry bombs and bulldozers managed to beat back flames threatening a mountaintop observatory, the wildfire was approaching a mountain-side community.

The lightning-sparked fire in southeastern Arizona grew to 8,550 acres by Monday, officials said, and had burned to within a few miles of the community of Turkey Flat, which has 74 cabins.

Fire officials said flames could reach the town Tuesday.

The wildfire, along with a nearby 7,810-acre blaze, prompted the evacuation of a \$200 million-plus observatory and about 90 cabins on Mount Graham on Friday. Outrigger said that the fires were not expected to join as previously predicted.

Enemy combatant refuses complaint: Jose Padilla, who the government alleges was part of an al-Qaida plot to set off a radiological bomb and who is being held at a Navy brig in South Carolina, has refuted his lawsuit against the federal government.

An attorney for Padilla said Tuesday she filed a complaint in U.S. District Court in Charleston after the U.S. Supreme Court in a narrow ruling last week decided Padilla's



Bird flu: A Thai farm worker collects dead chickens to be destroyed at a farm in Ayutthaya province in central Thailand on Tuesday. Thailand suspects a new outbreak of bird flu at a farm in Ayutthaya, where thousands of chickens have died, Deputy Agriculture Minister Nalin Chichob said. It would be the second outbreak since the government declared on May 14 that it was all but certain that Thailand was free of the disease following widespread outbreaks earlier in the year.

original case should not have been brought in federal court in New York.

World

Sudan violence: U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan warned African leaders Tuesday that the humanitarian crisis in Sudan's Darfur region could destabilize the region if they don't take action.

Annan addressed the 40 leaders, including Sudan's President Omar el-Bashir, after a visit to Darfur — where thousands have been killed and more than a million black Africans have fled attacks by Arab militiamen. He also visited refugee camps in neighboring Chad.

The violence has cost Africa some \$250 billion, the African Union said.

Diana's fountain dedicated: Queen Elizabeth II dedicated a fountain in honor of Princess Diana on Tuesday and acknowledged that there had been difficult times with her late daughter-in-law but "memories mellow with the passing of the years."

The queen, her husband, Prince Philip, and Diana's former husband, Prince Charles, joined with Diana's family to formally open the \$6.5 million oval granite water feature in Hyde Park in London.

German talking case: A former DaimlerChrysler engineer whose high-speed talking caused the crash that killed a young mother and her 2-year-old daughter claimed innocence Tuesday in an appeal of his 18-month manslaughter sentence.

Rolf Fischer, 35, continued to stand by his claim that he was nowhere near the scene of the accident when it happened.

Judge Harald Kivall told Fischer that if he confessed during the appeals process he might be able to get a milder sentence.

Australian infant's death: The mother of a baby killed 24 years ago by a wild dog in the Australian Outback said Tuesday she bears no grudge toward a man who claims he knew the infant's fate but did not tell authorities.

Melbourne retiree Don Cole sparked a furor this week by telling a Sunday newspaper he shot a dingo near Ayers Rock on the night Azaria Chamberlain went missing in August 1980.

If his claim is true, his failure to tell police about his grisly discovery paved the way for one of Australia's most notorious miscarriages of justice. Investigations into Cole's claim have been opened.

Milosevic's trial: The U.N. tribunal ruled Tuesday former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic was fit to stand trial, but may not be healthy enough to continue defending himself against charges of war crimes and genocide.

The judges ordered Milosevic, 62, to undergo a new medical examination by an independent cardiologist and postponed hearings in his case until July 14.

They also asked the tribunal's registrar to find a lawyer who could be assigned to Milosevic's defense if necessary.

Stories and photo from The Associated Press

Correction

In Thursday's editions of Stars and Stripes, a story about the court-martial of Spc. Maurice Jones of the 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, included some inaccurate information. The charges of which a panel acquitted Jones were robbery, assault and receiving stolen property. Also, the alleged victim identified Jones as his attacker during the trial, but his identification was called into question, defense attorney David Court said.

Messages of Support

★ There's a hero, if you look inside your heart, you don't have to be afraid of what you are. There's an answer, if you reach into your soul, and the sorrow that you know will melt away. And then a hero comes along with the strength to

carry on and you cast your fears aside and you know you can survive. So when you feel all hope is gone, look inside you and be strong and you'll finally see the truth that a hero lies in you. Dreams are hard to follow but don't let anyone tear them

away, hold on there will be tomorrow. You'll find the way. I'd give up everything if only for your good. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Sincerely, T. Spoonhower

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Iraqi group threatens to kill al-Zarqawi

Car bomb kills 14 near Baqouba

BY TAREK EL-TABLAUW
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD A group of armed, masked Iraqi men threatened to kill Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi if he did not immediately leave the country, accusing him of killing innocent Iraqis and defiling the Muslim religion.

The threats revealed the deep anger many Iraqis feel toward foreign fighters, whom many consider as illegitimate a presence here as the 160,000 troops of the U.S.-led coalition.

In a videotape sent to the al-Arabiya television station, a group calling itself the "Salvation Movement," questioned how al-Zarqawi could use Islam to justify the killing of innocents, the targeting of government officials and the kidnapping and beheading of foreigners.

"He must leave Iraq immediately, he and his followers and everyone who gives shelter to him and his criminal actions," said a man on the video.

The video marked the first time an Iraqi group made such a public threat against al-Zarqawi.

It was issued a day after U.S.-led coalition forces, who have been targeting al-Zarqawi, launched an airstrike in the restive city of Fallujah on a suspected safe house used by his followers.

The attack killed 15 people, witnesses said.

In the video, three men, their faces covered with Arab headscarves, were flanked by rocket-propelled grenades and an Iraqi flag. The man speaking had a clear Iraqi accent.



Iraqis look at the scene of a car bombing in Khalis, Iraq, on Tuesday, that hospital officials said killed at least 14 people attending a wake. The provincial governor had left the wake just before the blast.

"We swear to Allah that we have started preparing ... to capture him and his allies or kill them and present them as gift to our people," the man said. "This is the last warning. If you don't stop, we will do to you what the coalition forces have failed to do."

Al-Zarqawi, said to be connected to al-Qaida, is believed to be behind a series of coordinated attacks on police and security forces that killed 100 people only days before U.S. forces handed over power to an Iraqi interim government.

His followers also have claimed responsibility for the beheading of American businessman Nicholas Berg and South Korean translator Kim Sun-il.

Also Tuesday, a car bomb exploded in a town northwest of Baghdad, killing 14 people who

were attending a wake for the victims of an attack on Sunday, hospital officials said.

The blast left a 1.5-yard crater in the ground, set five cars on fire and melted and burned the tent canopy in the central town of Khalis, in the heart of Iraq's orange-growing region.

Disembodied corpses littered the floor. White plastic chairs where mourners had been sitting in orderly rows were broken and twisted.

The violence underscored insurgents' determination to continue carrying out attacks, more than a week after U.S. forces handed power over to Iraq's interim government.

The provincial governor, Abdul-lah al-Juburi, was among the dignitaries who had just left the wake when the blast went off.

Guerillas have been targeting local officials and police officers throughout Iraq because they are seen as collaborators with Americans.

Violence has rocked Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, in recent weeks. U.S. 1st Infantry Division soldiers hammered insurgents who tried to seize government buildings and police stations only days before the June 28 power handover.

The military said three U.S. Marines assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force were killed in western Iraq. Two died in action Monday in Anbar province, while a third died of his wounds later in the day.

In Baghdad, the U.S. military said Tuesday that troops had fired on a car that failed to heed warnings to stop at a checkpoint, killing one child and wounding a second.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Friday, 858 U.S. servicemen have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 636 died as a result of hostile action and 222 died of nonhostile causes. The military did not provide an update over the holiday weekend.

The British military has reported 59 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared the major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 720 U.S. servicemen have died — 527 as a result of hostile action and 193 of nonhostile causes, according to the military as of Friday.

■ The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No new deaths reported.

■ The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No new identifications reported.

U.S. Marine captured in Iraq is free, family told

BY BASSEM MROUE
The Associated Press



Family spokesman Tarek Nosseir remarks on reports that U.S. Marine Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun is still alive. "We pray that the news of his safe release is true," Nosseir said Monday in West Jordan, Utah. Hassoun was captured by militants in Iraq.

BEIRUT, Lebanon — The family of a Lebanese-American U.S. Marine kidnapped in Iraq said Tuesday that a mysterious visitor had told them Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun is free and well.

Hours later, a Lebanese government official said the kidnappers released Hassoun after he pledged he would not return to the U.S. military. The official, who spoke on customary condition of anonymity, said Hassoun's whereabouts were unknown.

The two statements were positive signals for Hassoun's relatives in Lebanon and the United States, but they have seen their hopes rise and plummet since Hassoun went missing June 20 while serving as a translator for the U.S. Marines in Iraq.

Hassoun's brother in the north Lebanese city of Tripoli said Tuesday he is confident his brother is free, although he has not spoken to him.

"We have received reliable infor-

mation the guy is free," Sami Hassoun told The Associated Press. "We received a sign from my brother reassuring us."

Sami Hassoun would not reveal the sign, but he said the family had received credible information from a person he did not identify who came to their Tripoli home. The person did not say where the Marine was, he added.

Foreign Ministry officials in Beirut said that Lebanese diplomats in Iraq had told them Hassoun is still alive. They gave no further details.

On Saturday, a militant group calling itself the Ansar al-Sunna Army claimed on a Web site that it had beheaded the 24-year-old Marine, adding it would release a video to prove it. But in a statement posted on another Web site, the group said Sunday it did not issue the execution statement, leaving it unclear what had happened to Hassoun.

On Monday, a group calling itself "Islamic Response" told Al-Jazeera television that Hassoun was safe at an undisclosed location.

It claimed Hassoun had promised not to return to the American military.

The U.S. military said Hassoun had been absent without authorization since June 20. After a video showing him blindfolded and apparently in the hands of militants was broadcast June 27, the military changed his status to "captured."

The New York Times, citing a Marine officer who spoke on condition of anonymity, reported Hassoun had been traumatized after seeing one of his sergeants killed by a mortar bomb and was trying to make his way back to Lebanon. The officer told the paper Hassoun had sought the help of Iraqis at his military base, but was betrayed and handed over to extremists.

Hassoun's eldest brother, Mohammad, who lives in a Salt Lake City suburb, has denied the Times report.

There were no signs of activity Tuesday at the Hassoun's home in West Jordan, Utah. The blinds of the house were drawn, and about 30 American flags and a Marine flag were planted in the well-tended lawn.

Bahrain evacuation may affect 1,000 dependents

BY KENDRA HELMER

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. military in Bahrain may evacuate as many as 1,000 dependents as part of a mandatory relocation ordered by the Department of Defense because of possible terrorist attacks.

Fifth Fleet initially said about 650 military and Department of Defense civilian dependents were affected, but Cmdr. Jamie Graybeal, 5th Fleet spokesman, said Tuesday that number could be higher.

"We are in the process now of working with our 69 individual tenant commands to validate those numbers," he said in a phone interview from Manama.

The Pentagon announced the temporary

relocation, to last for at least 30 days, on Friday.

According to a travel warning on the State Department Web site, "Credible information indicates that extremists ... are planning attacks in Bahrain."

The warning mentions attacks on Westerners in Saudi Arabia, linked to Bahrain via a 15-mile causeway.

Late last month, Bahrain arrested and quickly released six Islamists for suspected links to al-Qaida.

The relocation decision "was made because of a regional concern about security. It would be inaccurate to attribute this to those six arrests," Graybeal said.

Everyone initially relocates to Norfolk, Va.

"From Norfolk, it's their choice," Graybeal said.

"When things change, people may be allowed to return," Graybeal added.

One effect of the move is that many base jobs will become vacant.

"Ultimately, we will have to work through the difficulties that arise through those vacancies, but nothing is more important to us than the safety of our family members," Graybeal said.

Bahrain is also home to a large Department of Defense Dependents Schools facility, attended by more than 700 students.

"We're waiting now to get some direction from our higher authority in Washington; we still have questions about the na-

ture of the evacuation," said Harvey Gerry, chief of staff for DODDS-Europe.

He said it wasn't clear whether the school's approximately 65 staff members, many of whom are on vacation, are required to leave.

The relocation has not affected the threat level condition for the approximately 4,500 military personnel in Bahrain, Graybeal said.

The threat level increased in late May for two weeks, during which time personnel were ordered to avoid off-base places where people gather, including bars and restaurants. It went back to normal in June and has not changed since then, Graybeal said.

E-mail Kendra Helmer at: helmerk@mail.stripsides.osd.mil

Grilled by lawmakers, Blair defends Britain's alliance with America

BY ED JOHNSON

The Associated Press

LONDON — Prime Minister Tony Blair on Tuesday acknowledged some friction in his close relationship with President Bush, and the political problems the friendship causes at home.

But facing hostile questioning from lawmakers, he defended the Anglo-American alliance in the war against terror and insisted it was in Britain's best interests.

"I am not daft about the politics of it. I can see, particularly in my own political family, it is a problem from time to time," said Blair, who has faced intense criticism within his Labour Party over the Iraq war.

"I don't think this country should ever let itself be ashamed of its relationship with the United States of America or believe that Britain is America's poodle."

During a 2½-hour session before a House of Commons committee, Blair was repeatedly grilled about his relationship with Bush.

Blair acknowledged two key differences with Bush: Washington's refusal to sign the Kyoto protocol on climate change; and the detention of four Britons at the U.S. Naval Base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"Guantanamo Bay is an anomaly that at some point has got to be brought to an end," Blair said, in his sharpest language yet about the long-standing disagreement.

But, he said, the United States was not being unreasonable in the detainee policy it considered a security threat. And he added that dialogue would continue on global warming.

The day of questioning, from all parties, betrayed the deep unease felt by many Britons that its government slavishly follows U.S. conservative policy without exerting real influence.

"Surely we, the country, have a right to know, where we have gone to war, where you have put yourself shoulder to shoulder with the Americans ... what we are getting in return?" asked Conservative lawmaker Edward Leigh.

It's widely assumed in Britain

that Blair backed Bush on Iraq, in return for a pledge that Washington would push harder for peace in the Middle East.

"Hasn't he let you down? Has he delivered his side of the bargain to you, given all the political capital you have expended in his behalf?" asked Leigh, referring to Blair's slump in opinion polls since the war.

At times exasperated, Blair denied it was a "quid pro quo" relationship in which "every so often they [the United States] throw us a scrap."

In a world threatened by terrorists and rogue regimes trying to develop chemical, biological and nuclear weapons, Blair said a strong trans-Atlantic alliance was essential. He said Britain and the United States shared common values and the belief that the "best security we ultimately have is the spread of freedom and democracy by justice throughout the world."

Blair received standing ovations when he addressed a joint session of Congress a year ago. But opinion polls show a majority of Britons dislike the U.S. president and disapprove of his close relationship with their prime minister.

Fearing Britain is mired in a conflict in Iraq over which it has no control, several lawmakers have called on Blair to distance himself from Washington, or at least demonstrate any influence he wields.

Blair suggested Tuesday he had encouraged Bush to engage the United Nations "instead of acting unilaterally following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks."

He also said Britain had "played a constructive part" in the decision to transfer full sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government and build up Iraqi security forces instead of the "vision of a dramatic increase in foreign troops."

"I think most countries round the world would give their teeth to have that relationship [with Washington], and it is a shame that here it is seen somehow as a sign of weakness that we have the closeness of that relationship," he added.



President Bush talks with British Prime Minister Tony Blair during the NATO summit in Istanbul, Turkey, last week. Tuesday, Blair defended Britain's ties with the United States as nothing to be "ashamed of."

Prime minister: Saddam was threat, WMD or no

The Associated Press

LONDON — Prime Minister Tony Blair said Tuesday that Saddam Hussein's illicit weapons of mass destruction may never be found in Iraq, but insisted the dictator had posed a threat to the world.

Saddam's alleged chemical and biological weapons programs served as London's and Washington's chief stated reasons for going to war.

However, the Iraq Survey Group's hunt for evidence has proved largely fruitless.

"I have to accept that we have not found them, that we may not find them," Blair told a committee of lawmakers Tuesday. "We do not know what has happened to them. They could have been removed, they could have been hidden, they could have been destroyed."

Blair rejected any suggestion that the stockpiles never existed and that Saddam had not been a danger to the world.

"To go to the opposite extreme

and say therefore no threat existed from Saddam Hussein would be a mistake," he told the House of Commons Liaison Committee.

He said the survey group had already shown that Saddam had the "strategic capability, the intent and was in multiple breaches of the United Nations resolutions."

"I genuinely believe that those stockpiles of weapons were there," Blair added.

In September 2002, Blair's government published a dossier of intelligence about Iraq. At the time, Blair told the Commons that Saddam's "weapons of mass destruction program is active, detailed and growing."

Blair said some of Iraq's chemical and biological weapons "could be activated with 45 minutes."

Even after no weapons were found during the war, Blair insisted they would be found.

Serious questions have been asked about the quality of Britain's prewar intelligence on Iraq's weapons. An inquiry, instigated by the government, will publish its report on July 14.

NATO in Baghdad to discuss its future role

BY JAMIE TARABAY

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — NATO officials met with Iraq's defense minister and U.S. military officials on Tuesday as the alliance took its first steps to carving out a military role in the war-ravaged country's future.

It was too early to tell, however, what role NATO would take and when its assistance could begin, said U.S. Army Gen. Greg Johnson, head of the delegation that included British and Italian military officials.

"The purpose of this visit is to find out what needs to be done and present that in a report, and the political decision has to be taken in Brussels," said Johnson, who described his visit as "a fact-finding trip."

Iraq's army was dissolved by the U.S. interim authority at the end of the war last year. While still in the process of rebuilding, it remains poorly resourced with badly trained troops.

At a summit last week in Istanbul, Turkey, NATO leaders offered military training to the new Iraqi government. However, France and Germany, which had strongly opposed the Iraq war, rejected the U.S. notion that an alliance training mission could develop into a NATO presence in Iraq.

French President Jacques Chirac and German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder insisted that any training must be outside Iraq.

Iraqi Defense Minister Hazem Shaalan welcomed NATO's support for cooperation.

His goal is to build up Iraq's army while he is still in office, "so that one day I can pass it on in good shape to a permanent Ministry of Defense," Shaalan said.

"We need to build a connection between the military and the civilian society to rid the army of the dictatorship that ruled it in the past," he said.

Most of the delegation, expected to remain in Iraq for five days, will explore options and prepare advice for the NATO ambassadors.

Iraqi forces test patience of U.S. troops

New national security asserting independence from occupying GIs

BY SCOTT WILSON
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — After rumbling through al-Sadr City for much of the morning, a column of six U.S. military vehicles and a flatbed truck carrying Iraqi National Guard soldiers stopped in traffic next to an outdoor market. A child emerged from the roadside stalls, carrying a cardboard poster of Muqtada al-Sadr, the Shiite cleric whose strident criticism of the U.S. presence in Iraq has whipped up a large following.

On tiptoes, the child handed the poster to the Iraqi soldier manning a machine gun, as U.S. soldiers watched in dismay. The Iraqi soldier, part of a nascent security force trained and funded by the United States, held al-Sadr's picture aloft for a gathering, cheering mob. The convoy began moving through smoke rising from piles of burning trash on the streets of the Baghdad slum.

"If we took it from them now, this whole place would explode," said Sgt. Adam Brantley, 24, of Gulf Shores, Ala., watching from behind the wheel of a Humvee.

A week after the official handover of political authority from the United States, the Iraqi security forces are asserting, in discreet ways, their independence from the American soldiers who continue to serve as their protectors and patrons. Unable to shoulder Iraq's security responsibilities on their own, the Iraqi forces are nonetheless testing the limits of their new relationship with U.S. troops, including openly expressing sympathies for the most resolute enemies of the United States.

The Iraqi National Guardmen who displayed the al-Sadr poster said they did so under threat of attack, and as a group they provided a useful security perimeter for the U.S. soldiers. In other regions of Iraq, more seasoned guard units have been given high marks by U.S. soldiers with the important task of training the new Iraqi security forces. On Sunday, in the city of Baquba, 35 northeast of Baghdad, Iraqi National Guardmen discovered a car bomb and two passengers fitted with suicide vests. In the ensuing gunfight, the car caught fire but did not explode. Both of the alleged attackers were killed.

The scene in Sadr City came a day after al-Sadr called on his followers to rise up against the interim Iraqi government and the foreign troops that remain in Iraq, reversing his previous stance.

Al-Sadr called the week-old interim Iraqi government "illegitimate" and promised his followers "continue resisting oppression and occupation to the last drop of our blood."

But an al-Sadr aide, Mahmoud Soudani, said in Sadr City that a tenuous cease-fire with U.S. troops would remain in place, although the militia would not be disbanded until the Americans left the country.

The mixed messages left uneasy the soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division based on an Army post at the edge of Sadr City. Earlier in the day, commanders received information from informants that al-Sadr's militia, known as the Mahdi Army, intended to end the cease-fire reached June 4 after two months of intense combat with U.S. forces. The fighting, which flared first in Sadr City, killed an estimated 500 Mahdi Army militants. The Iraqi police and national guard, then known as the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps, fled rather than fight.

Many of al-Sadr's surviving militants congregated in Sadr City, a desperate slum of at least 2 million people named for Muqtada al-Sadr, a revered ayatollah. The end of the cease-fire would likely signal a fresh round of fighting at a time when U.S. forces are determined to maintain a lower profile on the streets, hoping to give the new government and its security forces time to establish their independence in the eyes of ordinary Iraqis. But doing so is posing its own challenges as notions of sovereignty bump up against U.S. security interests.

As the crowd thickened along the narrow market street, chanting and clapping at the encouragement of the Iraqi soldiers, a shower of rocks rained on Brantley's Humvee in a staccato clatter. The convoy sped away from the market, popping beyond the

crowd's view at the edge of a dump. Sgt. 1st Class Craig Allen, 34, called down the sweating Iraqi crowd leader and demanded that he hand over the poster. Finally, after an angry toe-to-toe exchange, Allen had al-Sadr's picture in hand.

"We wonder how these guys would react in a firefight. Most likely drop their weapons and run away."

Since the handover, U.S. commanders with responsibility for Sadr City have required that all patrols include members of the Iraqi National Guard, a paramilitary force envisioned as an auxiliary to the Iraqi police. Only recovery missions and escort operations can be carried out without Iraqi soldiers present.

Capt. Douglas Chapman, commander of Bravo Company attached to the 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, was moved on Monday morning with four Humvees and two Bradley



LATV

Above: U.S. soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division argue, through a translator, with an Iraqi National Guardsman after taking a poster of Muqtada al-Sadr away from guardsmen during a joint patrol in the Sadr City neighborhood of Baghdad. Below: Children from Sadr City yell and throw rocks at 1st Cavalry soldiers.

Fighting Vehicles

Sandwiched among them was a flatbed truck, boarded after a fight for breakfast by 15 of the newest Iraqi National Guard recruits on the post.

The convoy weaved among traffic-choked streets before parking on a wide concrete median strewn with garbage. Car repair shops lined one side of the busy road, and on the other a ditch the size of a football field opened up where a street once ran. A U.S.-funded water project began there two weeks ago, but there was not a single worker at the site.

An Iraqi interpreter, wearing sunglasses and a bandanna to conceal his identity, told Chapman that the workers had abandoned the project three days earlier. The disappearance served as a warning sign to U.S. commanders trying to fashion a murky urban war. In addition, the neighborhood children refused soldiers' offers of candy, dispensed from cargo pockets. One of them accepted a Blow Pop, only to hurl it at an Iraqi soldier.

"Ten minutes on, 10 minutes off," a shop owner lamented, referring to unreliable electricity supplies. Another man in a gray straw hat chimed in with his belief that the power is being diverted to other parts of Sadr City because of bribery. He brandished a thick stack of Iraqi dinars from his pocket to illustrate the point.

"Iraq's a sovereign nation now," Chapman told him. "This has always been up to your Ministry of Energy."

Then the children, who swarmed around the convoy, began chanting "Yes, yes, al-Sadr" as the troops headed toward the Humvees.

"They usually say this when we go," said Lt. Zach Swanson, 24, of Chicago. "They think it's some kind of victory."

Chapman

Chapman, a 29-year-old from Great Valley, N.Y., said he was determined to resolve the electricity problem — it was a "crucial quality

of life" issue, he said, as summer temperatures push toward 120 degrees.

The convoy pulled up in front of a power station on the edge of Sadr City a half-hour later. Chapman, Swanson and the masked interpreter headed toward the entrance, where an Iraqi police officer in a pressed uniform manned the gate.

"Do you have permission to be here?" the officer asked Chapman, who if surprised did not show it. He replied yes, and a minute later the group walked toward the main building.

The three men inside the control room appeared unhappy to see Chapman, who greeted them politely before asking to see their handwritten logbook charting the amount of electricity going to each neighborhood. The antique dials and switches on the control panels gave the room the feeling of a vintage James Bond movie.

To encourage a greater sense of independence, Chapman scheduled a stop at the Habibiya police station to deliver a gift to the chief, Maj. Awad Fatawi. It was an Iraqi flag, and Fatawi unfolded it like a child unwrapping a Christmas present, then ordered a "Pepsi party" in his air-conditioned office while his officers jury-rigged a flag pole.

Chapman made his rounds like a cop working a beat, taking the good with the bad. Then the convoy passed through the market in the center of the neighborhood and the Iraqi soldiers gleefully waved al-Sadr's poster. U.S. soldiers, furious at the display, believed the demonstration incited the crowd against them.

"They've got to at least put it down," yelled Pfc. Austin Twombly, 20, of Deerfield, N.H., from the Humvee's gunner's nest as people pressed closer to the convoy. He yelled at them to do so, but they did not.

Later, defending himself in the face of several angry U.S. soldiers, the Iraqi squad leader said the child warned him to take the poster or the convoy would be attacked. "Weak leader," Allen, the sergeant, screamed at him. Chapman stepped between the men.

Back at the camp, Chapman described the challenge he faces in placing limits on Iraqi troops in a country not his own.

"They can move forward whenever they want," Chapman said. "We just asked them to stop displaying the picture. They can support whoever they want on their personal time."

The poster, folded in half, remained in the back of Brantley's Humvee.



Morale in Iraq: Low to gung-ho

Troops' moods vary with duties

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — As Iraq inches toward self-sufficiency, the morale of U.S. troops trying to help the Iraqi people ranges from disillusioned to upbeat.

In many places, the emotional and physical rebuilding of Iraq is well under way and troops feel appreciated. But almost daily, far from the ribbon-cuttings and candy giveaways, an improvised bomb or missile kills another American servicemember.

In a recent interview on the Pentagon Channel, Army Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, deputy operations director for Multinational Forces Iraq, said that the troops' morale was high because they were focused on their mission and seeing positive results.

That does not appear to always be the case, according to random conversations with scores of servicemembers for this story at various locations in Iraq and Kuwait and feedback from troops over the past six weeks.

Some members of the 1st Armored Division recently said that, except for the toppling of Saddam Hussein, the U.S.-led invasion and occupation have been a waste of time, especially after their one-year tour was suddenly extended in April by three months.

Others believe positive things are still getting done, and that sense of accomplishment lifts their spirits.

"Morale was low, really low," Sgt. Eric Wilkinson of Corpus Christi, Texas, and 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, said as he waited at Baghdad International Airport for a flight home. "And then we got extended and [morale] was nothing."

"The extension, from our point of view, was not needed."

"There's no reason for us to be here, just getting killed, when the entire Iraqi nation doesn't want us here," said Spc. Edward Wisdom of Amoret, Mo. "Why are we helping them?"

For some servicemembers, keeping morale up is a result of keeping in mind how their job fits into the overall mission.

Petty Officer 2nd Class David King, for example, analyzes information that troops use to keep track of the enemy and its tactics.

"Being here to protect my fellow soldiers as they do their patrols, and as they protect the gates while I do my job, helps my morale," said King, of the Norfolk, Va.-based 2nd Fleet. "And I think they enjoy knowing that somebody like me is sit-

"In my case, there are people who will give \$15 million if somebody cuts off my head and gives it to them. Does that make me happy? No. Do I have high morale? Yes."

Army Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt

deputy operations director for Multinational Forces Iraq



CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

From left, Sgt. Miles Wetzel of Lewistown, Mont., Spc. Steven York of Omaha, Neb., Sgt. Eric Wilkinson of Corpus Christi, Texas, Spc. Joshua Wood of Salt Lake City, and Spc. Edward Wisdom of Amoret, Mo., wait Thursday at Baghdad International Airport for a flight to Baumholder, Germany. The five are members of 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

ting behind the gates, doing my job to help them."

Morale comes from within, according to Spc. Matt Kellum of the 141st Signal Battalion, which was attached to the 1st AD. As he waited in Kuwait for his flight home, Kellum said he'd been deployed for 15 months and tried to make the best of it.

"The media only shows all the bad things happening," Kellum said. "You don't see the good things like schools being built. People aren't really going to see the good we're doing here for years down the road."

Staff Sgt. Travis Muth of 1st Battalion, 160th Infantry Regiment, California Army National Guard, has a relatively cushy job and pretty good morale. He stands guard by a gate inside Baghdad's Green Zone, an area that is already secured.

Still, he has to be on guard, and it's not out of the ordinary and he misses his family.

"Everybody can nit-pick at their job," said Muth, of Riverside, Calif.

"When important people come in here, they want to feel safe. We don't want them to feel threatened."

When told last week that some soldiers had doubts about their mission — "No matter how worthless the cause, we gave it all we had," said one — Kimmitt blamed the commanders who let their troops become

unfocused.

"When you've got leaders out there who aren't doing their jobs, the soldiers are going to say, 'I don't know why I'm here,'" Kimmitt said.

"You've got to tell a soldier why he is here. Sometimes you've got to take them down to a car-bomb site and let them walk around, as I have done with my soldiers, to understand why they're here."

But he added that having good morale and being happy aren't the same things.

"Do we have a right to be happy? No," Kimmitt said. "It gets real hot around here. There are people shooting at you."

"In my case, there are people who will give \$15 million if somebody cuts off my head and gives it to them. Does that make me happy? No. Do I have high morale? Yes."

"They [soldiers] are 19 years old," Kimmitt said. "They'd rather be back home bird-dogging chicks and fixing their car but they're not."

"They're in a country that's going through a hell of a transition and they are here to do what they've got to do to help."

"And they're putting their lives on the line to do it and that's not fun and that's not easy."

According to the Department of Defense, 858 servicemembers have died since March 2003 and the start of what the military calls Operation Iraqi Freedom. On June 28, an interim Iraqi government took control of the country's ministries, such as agriculture, electric and health.

Iraq plans to hold free elections in early 2005. It is unknown how long U.S. troops

will remain in the country, but military leaders have said it will be as long as it takes for Iraqi security forces to become able to defend themselves and the Iraqi people.

In October, a Stars and Stripes survey of 2,000 troops in Iraq showed 34 percent of the troops rated their personal morale as "low" or "very low" while 27 percent said it was "high" or "very high."

Since then, many of the places where the troops sleep and work have been outfitted with air conditioning. There are more cafeterias serving better food and more creature comforts such as Internet cafes, fitness centers and movie theaters.

Those niceties only soften the unpleasantness of being away from home. Kimmitt said troops need four other things in order to have good morale — an understanding of their mission, trust in their leaders, tools to do their jobs, and the support of people back home.

"It's not," he said, "about whether they like the show."

But for many, there is no substitute for home cooking.

"We've got decent food and a good place to sleep," said Pfc. Billy Cook of Huntington, W.Va., and the 141st Signal Battalion.

"But being away from the wife and kids, it would make paradise not so great."

"That's the hardest part for me, but it's also what keeps me going — keeping somebody counting on me helps me trying."

Reporter Fred Zimmerman in Kuwait contributed to this report.

E-mail Charlie Coon at: coonc@mail.strips.osd.mil

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Sigonella to open center for pilot tests

BY KENDRA HELMER
Stars and Stripes

Aspiring pilots in Sicily will have an easier time getting their civilian wings.

Next month, Naval Air Station Sigonella will open a testing center that supports certification and licensing programs with the Federal Aviation Administration and Federal Communications Commission.

Defense Department ID cardholders can use the Computer Assisted Testing Service — or CATS — center to take online exams.

The center offers exams in areas including recreational and private pilot licenses, flight engineer, parachute rigger, airframes and power plants.

"Once they take the requisite courses, [CATS] allows them to take exams to get certified," said Mike Sloane, Navy Personnel Development Command's regional training authority.

The center offers exams in areas including recreational and private pilot licenses, flight engineer, parachute rigger, and airframes and power plants. Located at the NAS II Base Education and Training Department, it also offers Microsoft certifications.

Sloane said the center will save students money. Previously, they had to fly to Germany or the States to get certified.

There is no fee to use the center, and fees vary depending on type of exam. Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, which funds the center, reimburses students for some fees.

The base requested the center after flying aficionados discussed setting up a flying club.

Petty Officer 1st Class John Childers, an aviation structural mechanic for Helicopter Combat Support Squadron (HC) 4, and other sailors have worked for two years to get a flying club up and running.

Sigonella hasn't had a flying club for about 20 years, when it used a plane from Naples.

About 50 people have joined the new club, which is rebuilding a 1972 Cessna. Childers said the club is working with the Italian military to get permission to operate.

For information on the CATS center, call DSN 624-9406. For information on the flying club, call DSN 624-5461.

E-mail: Kendra Helmer at: helmerk1@mail.esrpes.odm



RICK DUVAL/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Col. Conrad F. Bodai, right, outgoing commander of the Europe Regional Dental Command, passes the flag during a change of command ceremony at Nachrichten Kaserne, Heidelberg, Germany, last week. The incoming commander, Col. Michael F. Cuenin, is at left.

Regional Dental Command leader changes in Germany

Stars and Stripes

Col. Michael F. Cuenin assumed command of the Europe Regional Dental Command during a ceremony June 30 at Nachrichten Kaserne in Heidelberg, Germany.

Cuenin, 48, and a 23-year Army veteran, replaces Col. Sidney A. Brooks. Cuenin's previous assignment was commander of the Dental Activity in Würzburg, Germany.

Brooks will become commander of Dental Activity, Fort Benning, Ga.

Marine sergeant major visits Landstuhl



Courtesy of U.S. Army

John L. Estrada, sergeant major of the Marine Corps, speaks to fellow Marines during a lunch-time visit last week to the dining facility at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. Estrada also visited with Marines who were being treated for various illnesses and injuries at the hospital.

Chief competition tougher this year

Navy adjusts percentages for advancement rates downward

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — First-class petty officers hoping to rise to chief petty officer will have their work cut out for them this year.

The Navy will advance 21.9 percent of those eligible, a slight drop from last year's advancement rate of 24.8 percent, the chief of naval personnel announced last week. It is the third year in a row advancement opportunity to chief fell.

However, the quotas are still higher than in the late 1990s, when they were around 10 percent.

This year, about 3,900 first-class petty officers will be selected to the khaki ranks by a board that began narrowing down the list on June 28, according to a Navy news release.

Petty Officer 1st Class John Hughes, a career counselor at Naval Station Rota, said overall advancement quotas might be down, but sailors should understand that some ratings have very high advancement rates.

For example, quartermaster job rates this year will advance 47.7 percent and master-at-arms rates will select 50 percent. Submarine yeoman have the best overall advancement rating at nearly 70 percent.

Sailors in jobs with little advancement opportunity might want to consider switching specialty ratings, Hughes said.

For example, only two out of 120 eligible aerographer's mates will advance to chief this year, according to Bureau of Naval Personnel figures. Sailors in that rating hoping to advance might consider a different specialty.

Since the competition to reach chief is tough, Hughes recommends that sailors volunteer for ship duty, accept arduous assignments or get their warfare pin. Sailors who volunteer outside the Navy also have an advantage.

"You have to be well-rounded in today's Navy," Hughes said.

The board will select this year's chiefs July 30, said Mike McLellan, a Navy Personnel Command spokesman in Millington, Tenn.

E-mail: Scott Schonauer at: schonauer5@mail.esrpes.odm

Civil War ship re-created

COLUMBUS, Ga. — A replica of a Civil War gunboat trolled the Chattahoochee River and fired its cannon Monday to celebrate the boat's induction into a naval museum.

The Port Columbus Civil War Naval Center took the 1861 replica onto the river and fired several shots of black powder. The 22-foot gunboat was originally a 1941 lifeboat, but it was converted into a Civil War gunboat before being donated to the museum.

The center also renovated a one-fifth scale replica of the USS Monitor, giving it two operable ships in its five-boat collection.

"Any time you have the boats, motors and water together, there is a visceral connection instead of just a mental one that you have in standard museum exhibits," said Bruce Smith, the center's executive director. "This gives us a whole new range of opportunities to tell the naval story."

The gunboat's previous home was Virginia, but it was donated to the museum last September after sustaining damage during Hurricane Isabel.

Two retired Navy veterans — George Hagan Jr., 53, and Raymond Harrell, 59, both of Albany — put about \$2,500 and 900 hours into restoring the boat.

"It was great to see and ride the fruits of our labor out there," Harrell said.

From The Associated Press

Training for security control



MASTER SGT. AUSTIN CARTER/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Staff Sgt. Howard Fulson, of the 425th Air Base Squadron Security Forces at Izmir Air Station, Turkey, orders Staff Sgt. Adam Gard, also with the security force, to the floor during an annual training in the gym last week. Although the training for security forces and augmentees didn't use the real baton, Gard, who played the attacker, wore a heavily padded outfit for protection.

U.S. training aids Filipinos in fight against terrorism

BY JIM GOMEZ

The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — U.S. forces will provide guerrilla-type combat training to help Filipino soldiers better fight Muslim and communist guerrillas as well as al-Qaida-linked Jemaah Islamiyah militants, officials said Monday.

The anti-terror maneuvers from July 26 to August 14 will bring U.S. Special Forces trainers to Carmen town in North Cotabato province, a new training ground in the south for the Americans where Muslim separatists and Marxist rebels are active, military officials said.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, one of Washington's closest Asian allies, allowed American troops to arm and train Filipino soldiers battling Abu Sayyaf Muslim extremist guerrillas in southern Zamboanga city and nearby Basilan island two years ago.

Defense Undersecretary Edgardo Batanga said the counterterrorism training in Carmen, about 560 miles south of Manila, would be attended by more than 150 Filipino soldiers and more than 20 American counterparts, and would be confined to military camps and areas. The Americans will not engage in any combat operations, military officials said.

The Moro Islamic Liberation Front, the main Muslim separatist group holding peace talks with the government that operates in North Cotabato, will be notified of the

maneuvers to avoid accidental encounters, Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita said.

Batanga said North Cotabato was chosen to expose the participants to a region where actual military operations are taking place.

Rebel spokesman Eid Kabalu said his group, which has a camp with about 1,000 armed guerrillas in a town near the area of the U.S. training site, has no problem with the military maneuvers as long as the MILF is not attacked.

"As long as they do not touch us, nobody should fear anything," he said.

Kabalu said that if the Americans look for foreign extremists, they would not find anyone because the guerrillas don't give refuge to terrorists.

Small units of Filipino soldiers will be taught unconventional warfare tactics, night combat movement, sniping and surveillance techniques, military spokesman Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero said.

The Philippine military will decide later where to deploy the U.S.-trained soldiers, but they would likely go into areas where Abu Sayyaf and communist rebels are active and suspected Jemaah Islamiyah foreign militants are believed to be secretly training, Lucero said.

A separate group of American troops will provide counterterrorism training and undertake civic projects with about 800 Filipino troops in a program called Bayanihan, or "lending hands," in southern Zamboanga city from July to December, Lucero said.

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Stars and Stripes reporter Terry Boyd speaks with Servicemembers from Triple Deuce at Firebase Purgatory.

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From left to right, Sgt. Wesley Parkhurst, Spec. Robert Isaacs, Terry Boyd, and Pfc. Michael Greenwood.

IN THE WORLD

U.N.: New HIV cases hit record numbers

By EMMA ROSS

The Associated Press

LONDON — New HIV infections hit a record high last year as the virus continues to outpace the global effort to contain it, according to a U.N. report published Tuesday.

The number of people living with the AIDS virus has risen in every region of the world. Last year, 5 million people became infected — more than in any single year since the crisis began.

Nine out of 10 who urgently need treatment are not getting it and prevention is still only reaching one in five people who should have it, the report said.

"The virus is running faster than all of us," UNAIDS chief Dr. Peter Piot said. The agency compiles a global AIDS report every two years.

This year's report provides the most accurate picture yet of HIV's march across the planet. It says new epidemics seem to be spreading unchecked in Eastern Europe and Asia. To tackle the pandemic, \$12 billion a year is needed by next year, instead of the \$10 billion that was predicted earlier.

In more revised estimates based on better information than was previously available, the U.N. AIDS agency figures that about 38 million people are infected. Until now, experts had put the ranks of the HIV afflicted at about 40 million.

The cost estimates have increased at the same time that the estimated size of the problem has decreased partly because of the price of delaying action, but also because the planned campaign is now more comprehensive than it has ever been, Piot said.

"We didn't really fully appreciate the importance of a number of things, like the danger of spreading HIV through normal medical equipment. That's a new cost. Also, protecting health care workers is more expensive than we thought and... the cost of taking care of orphans was grossly underestimated before," Piot said.

However, there have been triumphs.

Many countries, including Brazil, Uganda and Thailand, have reduced HIV infection. Drug prices have dropped dramatically and money is beginning to flow in for the global effort. More politicians are showing commitment to the fight and drugs are becoming increasingly available in poor countries.

Among the major challenges are women and young people's vulnerability to the disease; ensuring the virus doesn't become im-

mune to drugs; keeping health workers in the developing world; and tackling stigma and looking after children orphaned by the disease. In some places the size of the health work force needs to quadruple, the report found.

Money remains a significant problem. Funding has increased to about \$5 billion a year in 2003, but that is still less than half of what is needed.

By 2007, \$20 billion a year will be needed to tackle the problem in developing countries. That money would provide drugs for 6 million people, AIDS tests for 100 million adults, HIV education in schools and care for 22 million AIDS orphans, the report said.

More than 20 million people have died since the disease was first diagnosed in 1981 and about 3 million people are dying each year, the report said.



Revelers throw an unidentified woman into the air Tuesday as others wave the Basque flag during the official opening of the 2004 San Fermin Festival in Pamplona in northern Spain. The festival includes morning running of the bulls down the main street of the city and afternoon bullfights.

Pamplona, bulls ready to run

By ALBERTO LETONA

The Associated Press

PAMPLONA, Spain — Right on schedule — noon Tuesday — a rocket fired from a balcony in this Spanish town transformed the sky into a mosaic of glittering dust in a spectacular prelude to the annual running of the bulls.

The "chupinazo" rocket-firing ceremony signaled the start of nine days of street parties in honor of Pamplona's patron saint, San Fermin, highlighted by eight bull runs beginning Wednesday.

"Men and women of Pamplona, viva San Fermin!" shouted municipal official Jorge Mori from the balcony of city hall.

Below him, hundreds of revelers dressed in white shirts and trousers donned red kerchiefs and cummerbunds as dictated by tradition. The bravest will run ahead of more than a dozen bulls along the town's narrow cobblestone streets, an event chronicled and popularized to a world audience by Ernest Hemingway in the 1920s.

"I have come to drink beer, to get to know the beautiful women of Spain and to run the bulls," said Kyle Hesley, a 22-year-old student from California.

That enthusiasm wasn't shared by everyone in Pamplona this week. On Monday, several hun-

dred animal rights activists — some in their underwear, others topless — marched through the city to denounce bullfighting.

Tuesday's revelry began with the firing of 32 rockets. Shouts of "San Fermin!" rocked town hall square, where noise levels reached 133 decibels — what an airplane sounds like on takeoff.

On nearby streets, thousands of people from all over the world gathered to sing, dance, drink and get ready for the first bull run.

The mood was euphoric. Drenchings by cold water thrown from balconies above the crowds were received in high spirits. Lots of people were wet anyway from champagne and sparkling wine showers.

Investigation opens into Madrid train bombings

By DANIEL WOOLLS

The Associated Press

MADRID, Spain — Parliament's investigation of the Madrid train bombings opened Tuesday with an eyewitness's account of three suspicious men wearing wool caps on a warm spring day, their faces covered by handkerchiefs, at the station that was the starting point of the attacks.

Luis Garrudo, a doorman in the town of Alcalá de Henares, told the commission what he told authorities March 11: He directed police to the men's van that had to contain a cassette tape with verses from the Quran, deto-

nants and traces of explosives of the kind used in the attack.

It was the first big break in the case.

In all, 10 backpacks stuffed with dynamite and shrapnel exploded on four crowded trains heading to central Madrid during the morning rush hour, killing 190 passengers and bystanders, and wounding more than 2,000. The attack is blamed on Islamic militants with possible ties to the international terrorist group al-Qaida.

The 16-member commission will interview witnesses and officials, and examine police documents and other evidence, to review what happened on March 11 and following days.

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★ Here in the Heartland, in South Dakota we support our troops. All of you are in our hearts and prayers. Come home safe. G. Wood

4 charged in plot to bomb Munich synagogue

By DAVID RISING

The Associated Press

BERLIN — German prosecutors said Tuesday they have charged four far-right radicals in a plot to bomb the dedication ceremony of a new Munich Jewish synagogue last year, including a prominent leader of a neo-Nazi organization.

Martin Wiese, who heads the Bavarian-based Kampfdienstleistung and the three others, identified only as Alexander M., 28, Karl-Heinz St., 24 and David Sch., 22, were charged with membership in a ter-

rorist organization, said Frauke Scheuten, a spokeswoman for federal prosecutors. The charges carry a possible 10 years in prison.

Wiese is known to authorities as the leader of a group of about 25 neo-Nazi and skinheads that was active in protesting the U.S. war in Iraq and a now-finished traveling exhibition of photos documenting World War II atrocities committed by the German army.

Wiese, 28, Alexander M., and Karl-Heinz St., also are charged with planning to bomb the dedication ceremony for

the new Jewish synagogue and community center in Munich, which was attended by then-President Johannes Rau and prominent German Jewish leaders.

The ceremony took place Nov. 9, the anniversary of the 1938 Kristallnacht, or Night of Broken Glass, when synagogues and Jewish businesses were attacked across Germany and about 100 Jews killed and thousands deported to concentration camps in a prelude to the Holocaust.

Police said they foiled the plot the month before the ceremony after making a series of raids on suspects' apartments.

At the time, police said the group ob-

tained weapons and explosives including TNT from Poland, which they brought to Munich for testing. Munich police seized nearly 4 pounds of TNT, 31 pounds of explosives and two hand grenades during raids.

According to the indictment, Alexander M., a carpenter by trade, stole a bag of the explosives from a work site and by early 2003 at the latest, Wiese's group had the "terrorist means" for the attack.

Five other suspects were arrested in May. Four of them have been charged with membership in a terrorist organization and one with the lesser charge of supporting a terrorist organization.

Extremists' threats prompt debate on Israeli withdrawal

By STEVE WEIZMAN

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel's parliament called a special debate Tuesday on the threat posed by Jewish extremists opposed to settlement evacuation, and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon for the first time acknowledged publicly that he feels at risk.

In new fighting, an Israeli commando and seven Palestinians were killed in a series of clashes, Palestinian officials and the army said.

In the most deadly clash, the soldier and four Palestinians, including an unarmed man and his son, were killed during a fierce battle in a West Bank refugee camp.

An opposition Israeli lawmaker, meanwhile, presented photos he said support claims that the Israeli government is expanding West Bank settlement outposts, rather than dismantling them.

"There is a clear-cut case of flagrant deception and a breaking of the promise to the Americans," legislator Ephraim Sneh of the Labor Party told reporters.

Israel pledged to remove the outposts under the internationally backed "road map" peace plan, signed in June 2003. Sharon repeated that pledge during a White House meeting in April.

But the settlement watchdog group Peace Now said it has counted 53 outposts Israel is required to dismantle — nearly twice the 28 named in a government list handed to the Americans last week.

U.S. officials in Israel declined comment. However, they have publicly rebuked Israel in recent weeks, a sign of growing impatience with its handling of the outposts, seen as seeds of future settlements.

Asaf Shariv, an aide to Sharon, said the government's list of 28 outposts is accurate and declined to comment on the deception charge. Israeli officials said last week that fewer than half of the outposts on their list would be removed and that others were being "legalized."

The violence erupted hours before envoys of the so-called Quartet of Mideast mediators — the United States, the European Union, the United Nations and Russia — were to meet in Jerusalem. The talks focused on Israel's planned withdrawal from Gaza.

A diplomat in Jerusalem, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the participants said the withdrawal should be part of the "road map," a broader peace plan aimed at creating an independent Palestinian state by 2005.



Palestinian laborers work on a section of Israel's separation barrier in the West Bank village of Abu Dis, in the outskirts of Jerusalem, on Tuesday. The International Court of Justice in The Hague will issue a nonbinding ruling over the barrier next Friday. Israel rejects the court's authority to rule on the issue.

The participants also discussed the dire humanitarian situation in the Palestinian areas with World Bank representatives, the diplomat said. The diplomats are scheduled to meet with Palestinian officials on Wednesday.

Sharon's plan to uproot all 21 Jewish settlements in Gaza and four enclaves in the West Bank — has met resistance from hard-liners in Israel.

The Israeli parliament called Tuesday's debate after Avi Dichter, the head of the Shin Bet security service, told the Cabinet on Sunday that he was concerned about growing militancy among opponents to settlement evacuation.

Also Tuesday, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that national elections will be held in November 2006, a year earlier than originally planned.

Israel's presumed nukes an issue during IAEA visit

The Associated Press

VIENNA, Austria — In his pitch for a Middle East free of nuclear weapons, the head of the U.N. atomic watchdog agency is likely this week to press for at least tacit acknowledgment from Israel that it has such arms or the means to make them.

Israel does not directly comment on its nuclear capability, and the International Atomic Energy Agency will not specify how hard IAEA head Mohamed ElBaradei will push officials during his

two-day visit to the Jewish state starting Tuesday.

ElBaradei has said that Israel should start talking seriously about a Middle East free of nuclear arms whether or not it owns up to owning them.

On the eve of ElBaradei's visit, IAEA spokesman Mark Gwozdecki linked it to the need "for a strategic dialogue at nuclear issues, aimed at building up ... mutual confidence and, in the long run, making the region free of weapons of mass destruction."

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon

was quoted Tuesday as saying that Israel would not change its "no show, no tell" nuclear policy.

ElBaradei was to meet Sharon and other senior officials.

Evidence that Israel has nuclear arms is overwhelming, much of it based on details and pictures leaked in 1986 by Israeli nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu, other leaks, research and statements made by Israeli leaders.

Still, Israel has left few footprints in developing any weapons program.

Metal struts cited as cause of airport collapse in Paris

The Associated Press

PARIS — The Paris airport collapse that killed four people in May was probably caused by metal struts piercing the building's concrete vaulted roof, an official report said Tuesday.

The Transport Ministry said preliminary findings suggested that the "dominant cause" of the partial collapse of terminal 2E was "linked to the perforation of the vault by the struts."

But the report said experts had yet to determine why the struts broke through the concrete and why the accident happened when it did. The metal struts were a key part of the structure, holding apart the arched concrete roof and the glass that enveloped it.

The report also blamed the poor quality of the concrete for the May 23 disaster, in which falling glass, steel and masonry killed four travelers — two Chinese, one Czech and one Lebanese. Three others were injured.

"It's probable that this perforation was made possible by the prior gradual deterioration of the concrete," the ministry's statement said.

The ministry, citing the findings, brushed aside speculation that the accident was caused by ground movement or the problems that appeared during construction. Pylons holding up the section of the three-building terminal that collapsed had to be reinforced after cracks appeared — among the problems that delayed the terminal's opening.

An inquiry commission is using modeling techniques and laboratory analysis of the debris to establish the cause of the disaster at the futuristic terminal designed by architect Paul Andreu, 63, who is working on an open house in Beijing.

Its final report, for which no date has yet been set, will determine whether the terminal will be repaired or torn down.

The terminal, which opened to great fanfare on June 25, 2003, was a key element in the development strategies of the airport's operator, Aeroports de Paris, and its main contractor, Air France.

A judicial investigation into the accident also is proceeding, with experts trying to detect possible errors in the structure's conception or any failure in the building techniques.

Terror threats close embassies

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Security forces caused the British High Commission in Pakistan to remain closed for a second day on Tuesday, and the U.S. Embassy stopped processing visas, officials said.

An unspecified terrorist threat prompted the British mission to close its doors on Monday. Tensions were high in Pakistan after a series of bombings and foiled attacks blamed on Islamic militants.

He declined to say when the mission would reopen.

The U.S. Embassy, which is located in the same diplomatic enclave, was closed on Monday for the American Independence Day holiday. It reopened Tuesday, but its visa section was closed, officials said.

From The Associated Press

IN THE STATES

Kerry picks Edwards as running mate

BY RON FOURNIER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry on Tuesday selected former rival John Edwards to be his running mate, calling the rich former trial lawyer and rookie senator a man who showed "guts and determination and political skill" in his unsuccessful race against Kerry for the party's nomination.

As Kerry announced his decision in Pittsburgh, a huge crowd of supporters burst into applause, waving handmade signs that mixed with professionally printed "Kerry-Edwards" placards kept under wraps until the last minute.

By selecting Edwards, 51, Kerry went with the smooth-talking Southern populist over more seasoned politicians in hopes of injecting vigor and small-town appeal to the Democratic presidential ticket. Kerry, a decorated Vietnam veteran whom critics call aloof, calculated that his ticket didn't need foreign policy help as much as a flash of pizzazz.

"I was humbled by his offer," Edwards said in a statement, "and thrilled to accept it."

During the nomination fight, Edwards did better than Kerry among Republicans and nearly as well among independents, according to exit polls conducted by The Associated Press. By comparison, all voters in these primaries, Kerry beat Edwards



Presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., thanks the crowd after a campaign rally Tuesday in downtown Pittsburgh, where he announced his selection of John Edwards as his running mate.

2-to-1. Edwards' voters frequently said the top candidate quality in their choice was that "he has a positive message."

President Bush's allies at the Republican National Committee immediately labeled Edwards a "disingenuous, unaccomplished liberal" trial lawyer — even as Vice President Dick Cheney called to congratulate him.

Rep. Dick Gephardt of Missou-

ri, Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack and Sen. Bob Graham of Florida emerged as finalists in a search that began four months ago with a list of about 25 candidates.

Kerry's choice was a blow to internal pressure: Edwards was the most popular of the leading contenders for the job, according to an AP-Ipsos poll of registered voters taken last month, and party leaders had been urging Kerry to shed

his initial resistance to the North Carolina senator, elected in 1998.

Obsessed with secrecy, Kerry kept his decision to himself until the last possible minute, giving Edwards no time to get to Pittsburgh. He met secretly with Edwards on Thursday — top aides for both men didn't know about the session — and the search team headed by Jim Johnson turned over its final reports to Kerry that night.

VP selection says he has 'right kind of experience'

BY WILL LESTER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even as a working-class kid in a tiny Southern mill town, young Johnny Edwards displayed an infectious smile and a sunny outlook that were destined to take him far.

"Persistently optimistic," is how his wife, Elizabeth, describes him. "Losing's not in his vocabulary," says his father, Wallace Edwards.

Now, as John Kerry's chosen running mate, John Edwards has the opportunity to spread his

can-do message on behalf of the Democratic ticket. And he has the challenge to overcome criticism that as a first-term senator he lacks the seasoning and foreign policy credentials for such a position.

Edwards, at age 51, is known as a skilled legislator and politician. He made it onto Al Gore's short list when Gore was searching for a running mate in 2000.

He brushed aside questions about whether he has the experience for a presidential ticket, saying his working-class roots give him all the seasoning he needs.

"The experience I have is the right kind of experience," he said last year as he campaigned unsuccessfully for the Democratic nomination. "I do see things through the eyes of most Americans. I don't think staying in Washington for decades strengthens your ability to do what needs to be done."

Soon after his 1998 election to the Senate over incumbent Republican Launch Fainforth, Edwards was making a name for himself in Congress.

His lawyer's background was useful in helping senators navigate the Clinton impeachment hearings. And he won early praise for helping push a patient's rights bill through the Senate, though it never won final passage.

Republicans tried during the primaries to cast him as a money-chasing trial lawyer, but Edwards countered that he represented ordinary people wronged by big businesses and heartless insurance companies.

Edwards and his wife lost their teenage son David in 1996 when high winds swept his Jeep off a highway. Although they were in their 40s and had a surviving daughter, Cate, they decided to have two more children, Emma Claire and Jack.

Edwards

Bush campaign to run ad starring McCain

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — President Bush's re-election campaign will launch a television ad featuring former Republican rival John McCain and titled "First Choice," an effort to paint Democrat John Kerry's running mate as his second choice.

McCain, the Arizona senator, rejected Kerry's overtures to be No. 2 on the Democratic ticket. On Tuesday, he selected Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., to be his running mate.

"He has not wavered, he has not flinched from the hard choices, he was determined to remain determined to make this world a better, safer, freer place. He deserves not only our support but our admiration," McCain says of Bush in the ad.

The 60-second commercial shows McCain speaking when he campaigned with Bush in Reno, Nev., last month, praising Bush's efforts in the war on terror.

"America is under attack by depraved enemies who oppose our every interest and hate every value we hold dear," McCain is shown saying. Referring to Bush, the senator says: "It is the great test of our generation and he has led with great moral clarity and firm resolve."

In May, Kerry ran a biographical ad that showed a picture of himself with a hand on McCain's shoulder, as the two walked away from the camera. The ad said: "He joined with John McCain to find the truth about POWs and MIAs in Vietnam."

Last month, McCain — Bush's rival for the GOP presidential nomination in 2000 — rejected the notion of a bipartisan ticket with Kerry, and shortly thereafter appeared with Kerry.

Kerry and McCain, fellow senators and Vietnam veterans, became close when they worked together to help President Clinton normalize relations with Vietnam. On the other hand, McCain has had a cool relationship with Bush, and the 2000 campaign was so bitter that it left wounds some believe may never heal.

Since Kerry secured the nomination in early March, McCain has praised him as "a good and decent man." McCain also defended Kerry when the White House accused the Democrat of being weak on defense.

N.Y. Post joins 'exclusive' list of famous gaffes

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Dewey defeats ... Gephardt?

The New York Post, in a front page gaffe reminiscent of the 1948 headline wrongly announcing President Truman's defeat, proclaimed Tuesday that Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry would select Rep. Dick Gephardt as his running mate.

"KERRY'S CHOICE," read the headline over the Page One "exclusive" story. "Dewey picks Gephardt as VP candidate." The story, which ran without a byline, was accompanied by a file photo

of the Missouri congressman and the Massachusetts senator.

But then Kerry announced his real choice Tuesday morning: North Carolina Sen. John Edwards.

Post editor in chief Col Allan said in a statement that he made the decision to go with the Gephardt story based on information that turned out to be inaccurate. He did not elaborate.

"We unreservedly apologize to our readers for the mistake," Allan said.

The paper's Web site replaced the Gephardt report with a story by The Associated Press on Kerry's actual choice.

Last October, after the New York Yankees defeated the Boston Red Sox in the American League playoffs, the Post mistakenly ran an editorial bemoaning the home team's loss. Allan blamed that foul-up on a simple production error.

It was 1948 when Chicago Daily Tribune ran its "DEWEY DEFEATS TRUMAN" headline. Incumbent Truman won, beating Dewey, the Republican New York governor who was considered a heavy favorite.

Kerry's selection — the correct one — appeared to be reported first by Andrea Mitchell on NBC's "Today" show at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday.



The New York Post reported that John Kerry had picked Dick Gephardt as his running mate.

Japanese-Americans revisit WWII disgraces

BY LORNET TURNBULL

The Seattle Times

SEATTLE — There's a little-known story about a group of Americans who for a decade or so after World War II really weren't Americans at all.

Theirs is a story that's not widely told because the people who can tell it best have been too ashamed to talk about it.

It's the story of 5,589 Japanese-Americans who, during the waning years of the war, renounced their U.S. citizenship. It's a pretty bad thing that happened to us," said Jean Miyoko Aoyama Tanaka, who gave up her birthright in 1944. "And it's something we were made to feel embarrassed about."

The untold story of the renunciants, most were interned at Tule Lake Relocation Camp in Northern California, has remained a dirty little secret in American history.

Some of what happened there after the war ended and the camps closed, most of the renunciants remained in the United States as Native American aliens — stripped of the basic rights enjoyed by other American-born citizens, such as voting.

Some, like Tanaka and her family, went to Japan, a country foreign to them, wretchedly torn apart by war.

It would take at least 14 years and thousands of court cases for all but about 50 renunciants who wanted their citizenship back to reclaim it.

Tule Lake, in the Klamath Falls Basin just south of the Oregon border, was the biggest of the 10 camps — the first to open, in 1942, and the last to close, in 1946.

Of the 5,589 Japanese-Americans who eventually renounced, 97 percent were from Tule Lake. Most of them sought to have their birthright restored once the war ended, including the 1,327 who moved to Japan after the war, according to research documents.

By 1959, all but 50 or so of those who wanted their citizenship back had regained it.

ernment they felt had betrayed them; they were branded troublemakers and condemned — even by fellow Japanese-Americans.

Some renounced, thinking Japan would be kinder than the hostile American communities they believed awaited them outside the camp.

Still others, like Tanaka and her three brothers, felt pressured by aggressive pro-Japan groups within the camp and renounced, fearing noncitizen family members might eventually be expelled from the United States.

Most believed it would all be undone once the war was over.

"This awful thing happened to people who had done nothing more than be of Japanese ancestry, placed in a situation that made them question the value of their American citizenship," said Tetsuden Kashima, a professor in the Department of American Ethnic Studies at the University of Washington. "Then the government turns around and tells them that they had the option of renouncing it."

Left to pick up shattered lives once the war ended and the camps closed, most of the renunciants remained in the United States as Native American aliens — stripped of the basic rights enjoyed by other American-born citizens, such as voting.

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Aldo Zini, president and CEO of Aethon, shows off his robotic helper, Tug, at Magee-Womens Hospital in Pittsburgh on Friday. Tug is a self-guided robot that transports medical supplies in hospitals.

Robots tackle mundane tasks at some hospitals

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Near a pair of swinging doors at a local hospital, a cart sits apparently abandoned. Yet at the push of a button, it perks up to say, "Thank you!" and rolls itself out the door.

The 50-pound machine, which looks like a vacuum cleaner mated to a cabinet, is designed to autonomously ferry loads of linens, medical supplies, X-rays, food and other materials.

In a push to lower costs and free up workers for more critical tasks, hospital officials are turning more and more to robots like Tug to ply their hallways.

Other robots include the RoboCart — a motorized table — and the droidlike HelpMate, a four-foot tall cabinet with flashing lights and turn signals that would look at home in any sci-fi movie.

It's unclear how many automated courier robots are being used in the nation's hospitals. There may be six dozen to about 120, according to experts and a small number of private U.S. companies making the robots.

The Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Houston has been using two HelpMates to cart medicine from the pharmacy to nursing stations throughout the six-floor, 352-bed hospital. They make as many as 30 trips a day, said Susan Dierker, a nursing supervisor.

"They're wonderful and they talk to you in Spanish and English. The nursing staff is pleased with them and most people just stare because they're wandering around the hospital," Dierker said.

The Tug, made by Pittsburgh-based Aethon, and the HelpMate, made by Ohio-based Cardinal Health, are more advanced than the RoboCart, made by California Computer Research Inc.

The RoboCart has a fixed path determined by tape placed in a hallway and has sonar to help it avoid smacking into a person or object in its path. It mostly ferries blood samples from one end of a laboratory to another.

On the other hand, the Tug and HelpMate are packed with sensors to help them "see." The Tug can tell the difference between a person standing in its way and a bag placed in a hallway.

They use wireless radios to call elevators or open automatic doors. Their "brains" are packed with maps of hospitals and computer programs to help them keep track of where they are, where they're going and the right time to jump on an elevator.

While it may seem ill-advised for a machine — even a smart one — to tote around drugs or medical records unsupervised, the Tug and HelpMate come with cabinets that can be mechanically and electronically locked. The HelpMate includes a fingerprint scanner for extra security.

Storms stir up plankton growth in the ocean, research finds

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Like a desert bursting in flowers after a rain, rainstorms, seemingly barren stretches of the ocean bloom with plankton after hurricanes pass by.

The bursts of life were measured by satellite studies following 13 hurricanes from 1998 to 2001.

"I was pleasantly surprised," said Susan J. Babin of Johns Hopkins University, who led the research.

Babin said sudden blooms of phytoplankton — tiny plants that float in the ocean — have been reported in areas of ocean up-

welling where rising water brings nutrients to the surface. He said similar effects from hurricanes had not been widely studied.

"Some parts of the ocean are like deserts, because there isn't enough food for many plants to grow. A hurricane's high winds stir up the ocean waters and help bring nutrients and phytoplankton to the surface, where they get more sunlight, allowing the plants to bloom," he said.

Russell L. Cuhel of the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, said similar effects have been found after storms cross the Great Lakes.

A plankton bloom following one severe Lake Michigan storm lasted a "couple of weeks" and led to a big improvement in the growth of larval perch, which fed on the algae, said Cuhel, who was not part of Babin's research team.

He said one hurricane he studied showed mixed water more than 175 yards deep after a storm.

Babin's team studied satellite data collected by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The images show changes in color of the sea surface, lasting days to weeks, as plankton grew in areas where a hurricane had passed through.

Scientists concerned about global warming, which has been tied to excess gases such as carbon dioxide, have debated whether such plankton growth could be encouraged as a way of reducing the carbon dioxide.

That has even led to experiments in which seemingly empty areas of the ocean were seeded with nutrients such as iron in hopes of encouraging such growth.

In some cases the bloom of plankton was quickly followed by a growth of zooplankton — tiny animals that eat the plants, Cuhel said.

Babin's research was funded by NASA's Earth Science Enterprise.

OPINION

As Iraq tries Saddam, he'll try our patience

The (Baltimore) Sun

It took only a few minutes after the shackles and cuffs were removed for Saddam Hussein to shake off the 7-month-old image of a coward in a spiderhole and reassume the hubris of a dictator.

At his arraignment for war crimes, Saddam lectured the youthful judge, refused to sign charging documents and launched into the familiar words and gestures of his political harangues. "This is all a theater," he declared in dismissing the proceedings.

Indeed, it was theater, as will be the trial where the former Iraqi president is called to account in an Iraqi court for offenses against his own people and humanity.

Iraq's interim prime minister, Iyad Alawi, was eager to take legal custody of Saddam and broadcast Thursday's proceedings in his countrymen in a necessary and effective demonstration of his new government's heft and legitimacy.

The carefully choreographed event was intended to send a message that Saddam's day is done, that he will be dealt with fairly but thoroughly in an exhaustive examination of his murderous regime, which could provide Iraqis with the catharsis they need to begin anew.

Thursday's 30-minute appearance also

thrust Saddam back on the world stage, which he used to address former supporters and sympathizers in the Arab world, calling President Bush "the real criminal." Providing the former dictator such a platform is a huge risk, but one that is absolutely necessary. The trials before an Iraqi Special Tribunal of Saddam and 11 of his henchmen must be conducted as openly as possible so the Iraqis can learn all there is to know and make their own judgments.

The worst course would be near-secret proceedings ending in execution that turn a brutal bully who gassed his own people into a martyr.

Thursday's event included some missteps. Saddam was brought into court without a lawyer for what was described as a preliminary presentation of the charges against him. Criminal defendants often appear alone in similar proceedings in this country as well as Iraq.

But denying Saddam access in this instance to the legal team secured by his family allowed him to grandstand on the issue.

Similarly, journalists working for Iraqi publications were excluded from the small pool of reporters permitted at the hearing, and a reporter for an Iraqi newspaper was evicted from the courtroom. That sends a terrible message to a nation already skeptical about how much its new government is controlled by U.S. minders.



Saddam Hussein's trial is still many months off. The time would be well spent getting the "theatrics" right before the curtain rises.

Geneva Conventions aren't convention everywhere

BY MAX BOOT

There was grim irony in the coincidence. On the very day that the U.S. Supreme Court issued its rulings on the treatment of enemy combatants, Al-Jazeera broadcast a videotape that said showed a captured American soldier being executed by Iraqi insurgents.

Army Pfc. Keith M. Maupin, 20, did not get the opportunity to file a petition with a judge asking that his captors provide good reasons for holding him. He did not get to complain to the Red Cross about the conditions in his cell. Nor, as far as we know, was he photographed in the buff, threatened with electrocution or menaced with guard dogs.

Assuming the report is accurate, he was simply shot in the back of the head and tossed into a shallow grave.

Where's the American Civil Liberties Union to protest this lack of due process? Where's the outrage of the "international community"? Why isn't Michael Moore making a film about Maupin, or about captured Marine Col. Waseef Ali Hossain, 24, who could join the growing list of Americans beheaded by our fanatical foes? This is not meant to suggest that the Supreme Court decisions were necessarily wrong, or that we should treat our captives the way Maupin was treated. The high court rulings probably were an inevitable response to the Bush administration's high-handed unilateralism.

By promulgating one-sided detainee rules on his own, without seeking Congress' consent, President Bush practically invited the justices to step in and create a more balanced process. But Maupin's case does suggest an inherent naivete in how we think about these matters.

The essence of the U.S. position on enemy captives is the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. The Geneva Conventions, that supreme product of Western rationalism,

are an attempt to codify this concept into international law. The problem is that they are essentially unenforceable; they bind only those inclined to follow their principles.

For most of the world, the Western legal tradition is utterly alien; it simply doesn't apply.

Look at how American POWs have fared since 1941. Just about the only enemies who played by the rules were the Italians and Germans during World War II. The Nazis reserved their barbarism for Jews, Russians, Poles and other "subhumans." Captured Americans and British were regarded as fellow soldiers and Aryans and were treated accordingly. There were some abuses, of course, but on the whole conditions in the stalags were tolerable. Only 1 percent of American POWs in Europe died in captivity.

The contrast with the Japanese approach could not be greater. For the samurai, who believed nothing was as dishonorable as surrender, POWs forfeited their humanity. The Americans and Filipinos who gave up on Corregidor in 1942 were sent on the infamous Bataan Death March.

The sick, hungry, exhausted men were driven mercilessly. Those who fell out of line were clubbed, bayoneted or beheaded. When an officer refused to give up his wedding ring, his finger was hacked off. Nearly 45 percent of all U.S. POWs in the Pacific did not return alive.

Americans captured in the Korean and Vietnam wars fared just as poorly. The North Koreans and their Chinese allies subjected POWs not only to physical abuse but also communist brainwashing. Fewer than 50 percent got home alive. Later, North Vietnamese guards freely tortured captured fliers to force them to make public statements denouncing their country. Accounts of what John McCain, James Stockdale and other heroes went through in the "Hanoi Hilton" still make for harrowing reading.

The 23 Americans captured by Saddam Hussein's regime in the 1991 Persian Gulf War got similar treatment but for a much briefer time.

Held in a secret police prison, they

were denied food and medical care and given savage beatings. A female officer was sexually assaulted.

"I can tell you that for about 20 minutes of my captivity, they played by the Geneva Convention," Marine Col. Cliff Acree told ABC News. "The rest of the time, they did not."

Americans have been far from blameless in their own handling of enemy prisoners. There have been notorious excesses from the Confederacy's Andersonville prison (in Georgia) to Abu Ghraib. But there is no question that the U.S. military has treated enemy captives much better, on the whole, than ours have been treated. However bad things got at Abu Ghraib, it was nothing compared with the beatings of Nicholas Berg, Paul Johnson and Daniel Pearl.

By all means, let's retain the moral high ground by treating our captives humanely. Give them the right of judicial appeal. Allow them to complain to the Red Cross. Hand them curly slippers and fluffy robes. Just don't expect our enemies to reciprocate our kindness.

Max Boot, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, writes a weekly column for the Los Angeles Times, where this column first appeared.

For most of the world, the Western legal tradition is utterly alien; it simply doesn't apply.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



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Tug strike over

HI HONOLULU — Striking tugboat workers approved a contract with the company responsible for much of Hawaii's interisland barge traffic, ending a four-day walkout.

The Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific ratified the agreement with Young Brothers Ltd.-Hawaiian Tug & Barge, said Jonathan Lono Kane, the union's regional director.

The workers will now accrue six hours off for every day worked, in addition to receiving improved medical benefits and pension plans. The contract doesn't include a salary increase, he said.

The company ships everything from food to cars and appliances among Hawaii's six main islands. It kept its ports open to deliver cargo to customers during the strike, but no new cargo was accepted for shipping.

Businesses flooded

AR DECATUR — Water rushed into this rain-soaked city's downtown when an earthen dam broke, flooding several businesses.

No injuries were reported. It was unclear how the dam in northwestern Arkansas' Benton County broke, or who owned the dam and the pond it had held back. The dam burst shortly after midnight, after the area had been drenched by 5 to 6 inches of rain, residents said.

Storm damage was widespread "from one side of the county to the other," said Doug Gay, sheriff's public information deputy.

A home was severely damaged by a possible tornado, and flooding and downed trees also were reported.

Pit bulls kill sick cats

NC WILMINGTON — Two pit bulls that may have wandered inside a shelter for sick animals killed 13 cats, authorities said.

Lee Esada, whose wife, Heather, manages the Southport-Oak Island Animal Rescue, found the dead cats and then found the dogs sleeping in a cage in the back of the shelter.

"I was so shaken up I could barely pick up the phone to call somebody," Esada said. "I've never been through anything like this before."

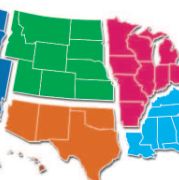
Richard Cooper, director of Brunswick County Animal Services, said there's no evidence of foul play. The dogs could have pushed through a hole in the chain-link fence surrounding the shelter and come inside the building through the cat door. The shelter housed about 75 sick cats.

The owner of the dogs was cited for creating a public nuisance and for the dogs to run at-large.

Playing dead not kosher

NY CARMEL — A 53-year-old man admitted in court that he declared himself dead and changed his name seven years ago to avoid arrest for skipping a court date.

"I was a different person then,



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

no pun intended," he told the judge.

William Arksey of Danbury, Conn., pleaded guilty in Putnam County Court to second-degree forgery for filing his own death certificate in September 1997. Then known as William Peterson, he had been arrested two months earlier on a drunken driving charge, had failed to show up in court and was named on an arrest warrant.

Assistant District Attorney Mary Jane McCrae said Arksey then filed the death certificate "to get a criminal charge dismissed."

The fact that he was alive came to light this year when he was arrested in Pennsylvania and his fingerprints were checked against a national database.

The judge said he would sentence Arksey to a year in jail.

Dozens jump to escape

CO THORNTON — About a dozen people jumped from a three-story apartment complex to escape a fire. Some babies were thrown to safety from the upper floors to neighbors below, officials said.

Between 10 and 14 people who jumped from second- and third-story balconies were taken to hospitals with broken bones and other injuries, said Sgt. Louis Dixon of the Adams County Sheriff's Office.

Flames were shooting from the building when firefighters arrived around 1:30 a.m. Some people fled their apartments with nothing but



Pause that refreshes

C.J. Camarena takes a nap between performers in the Fort Worth Stockyards during Willie Nelson's 4th of July Picnic in Fort Worth, Texas.

the clothes they were wearing.

According to witnesses, neighbors caught babies thrown from the upper floors of the Corona Village Apartments in unincorporated Adams County. At least eight families were left homeless.

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

Definitely the pits

MI EAU CLAIRE — The Krause family's cherry pit spitting legacy lives on.

With his father and 12-time champion looking on, Brian "Young Gun" Krause spit a tart cherry pit 88 feet, 2 inches to win the 31st annual International Cherry Pit Spitting Championship.

The 25-year-old from Dimondale took the title for the third straight year at Tree-Mendous Fruit Farm. Last year, he set a record of 93 feet, 6½ inches.

Meanwhile, Ann St. Amand, of St. Joseph, is working on her own streak, winning the women's title for the fourth time and third year in a row. Her 46-foot, 1-inch spit marked her best ever.

The perfect student

UT OREM — A Mountain View High School student made a clean sweep of the SAT and ACT college entrance exams.

Tyrie Vella, a 16-year-old who will be a senior at Mountain View this fall, got a perfect 36 on the ACT in November.

Even so, he still wasn't confident going in to the SAT this spring.

"I was worried because the odds were not very good that I would get perfect on both," he said. "And I had not scored that well on the verbal during two practice tests."

But when the results came back in April, Tyrie found out he had a perfect 1,600 on the SAT.

Tyrie tried to keep his test scores private, but his mother said excited friends and teachers made it difficult. Getting a congratulations from his track coach in front of the whole team also didn't help keep the scores under wraps.

Tyrie isn't sure where the test scores will take him next fall, but he said if he stays in Utah he will probably attend Brigham Young University.

Fire ants no conquerors

GA GRIFFIN — New research is dispelling the notion that imported fire ants will wipe out native species and become the South's dominant ant.

After spending a year collecting ants around the state, University of Georgia researcher Reid Ipper was not able to find a single red fire ant in wooded areas. His study led him to conclude that fire ants thrive only in areas with disturbed soils, such as roadways, fields and clear-cut areas — places where native ants find it harder to compete.

Fire ants certainly have become a dominant ant, but native ants are helping their own in forests, Ipper said.

Georgia has about 143 native ant species. Many are beneficial because they help control exotic species, they help degrade animal matter and they mix up the soil.



Flyover fan

Vera Chapman waves her flag to Air Force jets flying in formation over a Fourth of July celebration in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. The day has special meaning for Chapman, who became a naturalized citizen in 1972 after moving to the United States from her native England.



But this isn't River City

Iowa City Jazz Fest attendee Doug MacGregor, of Fairfield, Iowa, tries to stay dry as he is engulfed in a river of runoff during a torrential rain in downtown Iowa City, Iowa. MacGregor's wife gave up and went to the movies; his daughter got in their car to stay dry.



Coming 'round the mountain

Spotlights mounted on cars on a freight train are illuminated behind a passenger train on the Horseshoe Curve near Altoona, Pa., during a ceremony marking 150 years of the curve, which was built by the Pennsylvania Railroad and began service in February 1854. The tracks are now part of Norfolk Southern, which acquired them from Conrail.



Hello, Liberty

People gather around a giant Statue of Liberty head atop Kite Hill in Seattle's Gas Works Park.



A good neighbor

David Ramirez, of Mexico, wears an sombrero and Texas flags on his family enjoy the Fourth of July festivities in Garland, Texas.



Life at the beach

An unidentified man, lower left, naps on the beach, as a U.S. flag, displayed for the holiday, waves in the wind in Long Branch, N.J.

Best of the wurst

WI CAMPBELLSPORT — It was no mere wienie roast here when residents of this community 50 miles north of Milwaukee cooked what they hope is the world's largest bratwurst.

The village of Campbellsport grilled a 48-foot long bratwurst made of 25 pounds of pork, said Joel Fleischman with the Campbellsport Area Chamber of Commerce.

It took more than 45 minutes and 85 pounds of charcoal to cook the Campbellsport bratwurst. It was made by Lech's Meat Service and paraded through town on a flat-bed semitrailer with a police escort and a high school marching band, Fleischman said.

"Our little town's pretty fired up tonight," he said.

Roadwork season starts

ME PORTLAND — With the Fourth of July, the tourism season is under way in earnest. So is the highway construction season.

Some of southern Maine's busiest highways will become one-lane headaches as repairs and improvements commence.

"There's only so many weeks in the construction season and, with our climate, obviously we've got to work somewhere," said Greg Nadeau, director of policy and communications at Maine Department of Transportation.

New identity for college

VA FREDERICKSBURG — Students who started classes at Mary Washington College will find a different name on their diplomas: The University of Mary Washington.

Mary Washington made the switch official, introducing a new logo and hoisting a new flag. The name change reflects the liberal arts school's growth into a full-fledged university.

"I'm not too happy about that," Ryan Butts, 22, who will graduate this summer, said of the switch.

"Linguistically, it would have been better to say 'Mary Washington University,'" Butts said.

"You get used to it," said Ron Singleton, a senior vice president at the 96-year-old public college.

Bald eagles increasing

MD ANNAPOLIS — The Maryland Department of Natural Resources found 383 nesting pairs of bald eagles statewide this year. That's more than 10 percent higher than last year's record count.

The largest concentrations were on the mid-Eastern Shore and along the tidal Potomac River. Dorchester County led all counties with 84 nesting pairs.

Latest Tom and Becky

MO HANNIBAL — The town that provided the inspiration for several of Mark Twain's best-loved characters named two children as its new Tom Sawyer and Becky Thatcher representatives.

Brandon Mundle and Emma Hayden took the honors. In an annual tradition for the community they'll serve as the Hannibal Area Chamber of Commerce's "Tom and Becky" until the Fourth of July next year.

Tourism is a big draw in Hannibal, so all 10 finalists in the Tom and Becky contest will help during the next year, greeting visitors on riverboats that dock at Hannibal, in the Mark Twain Historic District and at several other events.

New casino in the cards

TX EAGLE PASS — The state's only Indian casino is due for a makeover along the Texas-Mexico border.

The Lucky Eagle Casino, which has been housed in a modular building in the eight years since its opening, was scheduled for replacement this summer with a \$15 million stone-and-steel structure next door.

Jesse Hernandez, who comes from San Antonio a couple of times a year to play the noisy, colorful slots, says he's been waiting for years.

"They've been saying next month, next month, for a long time," Hernandez, 62, told San Antonio Express-News online edition. "This one lacks a little bit. It doesn't compare to the big casinos in Louisiana."

The new facility is expected to generate more than double the \$25 million gross revenue reported by the existing Lucky Eagle.

Olympian crashes SUV

FL FORT LAUDERDALE — A former Olympic wrestler who defected from Cuba in 1997 crashed his sport utility vehicle into a crowded terminal building at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, slamming into a ticket counter and smashing through a wall, officials said.

Alexis Vila, 33, of Williamston, Mich., was taken into custody after he ran from his SUV after the crash. He suffered minor scrapes and remained hospitalized in stable condition. No one else was injured.

Vila was held at the hospital under the Baker Act, which allows authorities to hold people in protective custody for 72 hours for mental evaluations if they are deemed a danger to themselves or others, sheriff's spokesman Jim Leljedal said Monday.

Investigators don't know why Vila drove into the unmanned Southwest Airlines ticket counter, a sheriff's spokesman said.

Septic truck getaway

MA NEWBURYPORT — Police were searching for a bank robber who led police on a high speed chase in a septic truck before driving the wrong way up Interstate 95 and crashing into the woods.

The man held up the Five Cent Savings Bank in Newburyport and fled in the septic truck with an undisclosed amount of cash, police said.

State police spotted the truck and followed it into Georgetown. Then the driver headed north on the southbound side of I-95, police said.

Drivers swerved to avoid the truck as it crossed the highway, she said. Seconds later, someone jumped out the passenger door before the truck crashed into the woods along the northbound side, one witness said.

Police used a helicopter and canines to search the area, Trooper Thomas Ryan said.

Photos and stories from wire services

YOUR MONEY

PC keeps demanding ID

Q. I cannot get my new Hewlett-Packard Media Center computer to remember my passwords when I log on to various Web sites. Other computers in my work life handle login fine, but the HP won't retain user ID and password information. I have tried everything.

Having to type the user ID and password each time is more than annoying. I have uninstalled and reinstalled Microsoft Internet Explorer 6 several times, trying to restore the Auto Complete feature.

Alas, what is an active user to do with passwords?

—Michael Goldman, Chicago

A. A number of strategies can aid and comfort those of us whose daily chores require accessing multiple password-protected Web sites. Mr. G. I'm inclined to tout software known as Bookmark Buddy for your particular situation.

But first we need to make sure your computer isn't set to make your life more difficult by restricting both the browser's Auto Complete tool and the cookie files that facilitate most sites with a user name and password. Auto Complete watches one's keystrokes and finishes frequently used phrases after just a couple of letters are entered. It also keeps track of passwords limited to user names. It is activated in Internet Explorer by clicking on Tools and Internet

Options and then opening the Content tab. Also in the menu is a feature that lets one create a special Address Book entry filled with personal information that can quickly be entered in Web forms.

So click on the Auto Complete tools and check the boxes to remember user names and passwords.

Next you need to open up your computer to the cookie files that many Web sites place on customers' hard drives containing user ID and password data for automatic login. Use the same Tools/Internet Options display as you did for Auto Complete but select the Privacy tab this time. Use the sliding scale to set your privacy settings at a Bookmark Buddy, a program that not only keeps favorite Web sites close at hand, but also allows a user to arrange for automatic login no matter how restrictive the Privacy tab's Auto Complete settings. You can investigate this \$29.95 Web utility at Bookmark Buddy's site (www.urlbook.com/shim) and download it for a 30-day free evaluation period.

Contact Jim Coates via e-mail at: jcoates@tribune.com or via mail at the Chicago Tribune, Room 400, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. Questions or comments can be sent through this column. Add your point of view at: www.chicagotribune.com/asjkim

Ask Jim



Jim Coates

FRIDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

52-week	High	Low	Net	%	YTD	52-week	
			Chg	Chg	Chg	Chg	
10,753.63	8,821.20	Dow Jones Industrial	10,746.33	-51.33	-50	-1.64	+13.7
3,212.45	2,378.58	Dow Jones Transportation	3,146.17	-25.84	-81	+4.63	+30.6
583.25	229.46	Dow Jones Utilities	579.07	+2.43	+88	+4.19	+14.2
6,798.12	5,430.77	NYSE Composite	6,542.36	-44.00	+44	+13.8	+7.0
1,938.71	1,538.71	AMEX Index	1,939.86	+14.03	+206	+6.66	+17.0
2,153.53	1,598.92	Nasdaq Composite	2,076.56	-8.80	-44	+13.8	+7.0
1,163.23	969.54	S&P 500	1,175.38	+3.56	-32	+12.1	+14.7
471.99	349.27	S&P MidCap	598.81	+1.28	+21	+3.96	+23.3
466.02	328.00	Russell 2000	582.72	+3.59	+25	+4.63	+7.0
11,717.14	9,227.46	DJ Wilshire 5000	10,997.25	-35.60	-24	+1.3	+16.7

NYSE

AMEX

NASDAQ

Most Active (\$1 or more)	Most Active (\$1 or more)	Most Active (\$1 or more)
Microsoft 24,432	Microsoft 24,432	Microsoft 24,432
Amazon 2,697.7	Amazon 2,697.7	Amazon 2,697.7
United 2,014.7	United 2,014.7	United 2,014.7
Walmart 1,476.0	Walmart 1,476.0	Walmart 1,476.0
Oracle 1,388.0	Oracle 1,388.0	Oracle 1,388.0
General Electric 1,209.6	General Electric 1,209.6	General Electric 1,209.6
Johnson & Johnson 1,162.0	Johnson & Johnson 1,162.0	Johnson & Johnson 1,162.0
Boeing 1,071.1	Boeing 1,071.1	Boeing 1,071.1
Merck 1,071.1	Merck 1,071.1	Merck 1,071.1
United Therapeutics 1,071.1	United Therapeutics 1,071.1	United Therapeutics 1,071.1

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

Name	Div	PE	Low	High	Net	%	YTD	52-week
Airbus Technologies	-	62.64	-32	+4.4				
Airbus Holdings	-	22	49.52	-38	+18.5			
Boeing	88	22	49.52	-38	+17.5			
Boeing Co.	88	22	49.52	-38	+17.5			
Boeing Co. - Common	88	22	49.52	-38	+17.5			
Boeing Co. - Preferred	88	22	49.52	-38	+17.5			
Boeing Co. - Subordinated	88	22	49.52	-38	+17.5			
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FACES 'N' PLACES

First black Miss Nevada crowned

Twenty-four years ago, Elizabeth Muto was abandoned as a baby at the Reno, Nev., airport. Now she's considered royalty — the newly crowned Miss Nevada.

The Las Vegas woman beat out 11 other women Saturday night to become the first black Miss Nevada and to advance to the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City, N.J., in September.

"I've been Nevada's own since I was 10 days old," Muto said.

"Since then, the people of Nevada have loved and supported me."

Muto, a University of Nevada at Las Vegas, graduate who majored in international business, was the winner of last year's Miss Black USA pageant in Miami.

She was abandoned on Jan. 17, 1980, atop a counter at Reno-Tahoe International Airport. The Reno couple who adopted her thinks her biological mother flew to Reno to abandon the child before returning home to the San Francisco Bay area.



Muto

Swiping Schwarzenegger's stogies

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's personal label cigars have become a coveted currency at the state Capitol in Sacramento.

Political insiders who've received a stogie straight from Schwarzenegger or lifted hand-falls from his open humidor save the cigars as keepsakes or pass them on to friends.

"It's not a status thing," Assemblyman Greg Aghazarian told The Record newspaper in Stockton last week. "It's more like you know when someone's been to the governor's office when they have a cigar in their hand."

Aghazarian, who doesn't smoke because of asthma, said the cigars have helped him break the ice with constituents.

Assemblyman Guy Houston said he gave one to his brother and smoked another. "It was OK," Houston said. "It's not a Cuban or anything, but it's a quality cigar."

Some lawmakers prefer other types of celebrity keepsakes from the superstar governor. Sen. Charles Poochigian said he might frame the pen the governor used to sign the workers' compensation reform bill Poochigian carried for the administration.

Pippig a double winner

A day after becoming a U.S. citizen, three-time Boston Marathon winner Uta Pippig won her first race as an American in her hometown of Concord, Mass.

Pippig was first among women runners at the annual half of July Minuteman Classic Road Race, a five-kilometer race.

The East German-born runner became an American citizen in a special ceremony Saturday before a rehearsal of the Boston Pops on the city's Esplanade.

Pippig is the only woman to have won three consecutive Boston Marathons since the women's division was created in 1972. She won the first in 1994, setting what was then a course record of 2 hours, 21 minutes, 45 seconds. She is best known from behind win in 1996.



Pippig

Romance novelist to the rescue

Romance novelist Fern Michaels has come to the aid of the Stratford, Conn., police department.

Michaels, the author of books such as "Vegas Rich" and "Vegas Heat," has given the town \$10,000 to buy two police dogs.

Michaels made the donation after a town resident, Jeanne Peterson, sent her an e-mail that included newspaper reports on the town's need for dogs to assist with duties such as tracking and locating dogs.

The German shepherds, Roscoe and Zak, also will be wearing body armor provided by Michaels.

Michaels has supplied dog vests to departments across the country.

Michaels will visit Stratford on Friday to meet the dogs, and sign books.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



KRT

The band Hanson announces the formation of their own record label, 3CG, at the Bottom Line Club in New York City last October. Zachary, from left, Taylor and Isaac have released "Underneath," their first release since 2000.

All grown up

Hanson makes transition to adulthood by moving into '3 Car Garage'

BY MALCOLM X ABRAHAM

Knight Ridder Newspapers

Isaac, Taylor and Zachary Hanson are 23, 21 and 18 years old, respectively, and together they make music under the moniker Hanson.

Since their major label debut album "Middle of Nowhere" was released in 1997, they have had a No. 1 hit single with the chirpy pop song "MMMBop," sold more than 10 million copies of their music worldwide and performed all over the globe. And, much to the chagrin of many fans, Taylor got married.

Now there's "Underneath," Hanson's first full studio effort of new songs since 2000's "This Time Around" and the first release on the group's very own record label, 3CG, named for "3 Car Garage," an early independent release. The band of brothers has come full circle, leaving the major label shuffle behind to do for themselves.

While the name Hanson may still conjure up images of three towheaded kids impishly banging away on their instruments and singing slick pop tunes, Hanson circa 2004 is three men taking control of their own music and, by extension, their careers. Being millionaire music industry veterans before 18 is certainly a solid foundation upon which to build, but having a recognizable name doesn't automatically mean radio stations and MTV will knock down your door.

"The challenges for us are just like anybody else," Isaac Hanson said. "Just getting your record heard, whether you're Michael Jackson or Paul McCartney, Blink 182 or Hanson, it's getting your single on the radio and your video on MTV and letting the audience have the opportunity to hear the music, and that's a big challenge for anybody."

So far, the band is meeting that challenge. "Underneath" has spent time on Billboard's Independent Charts and the single "Penny & Me" has been in rotation on MTV's "TRL."

That the band has managed to get anywhere near MTV or radio without the usual major label connections, palm greasing (payola) or image retouching is a testament to its drive and business savvy. So far, starting 3CG has been the right move, though Isaac admits being label executives adds some twists to staying afloat in the crowded pop market.

"I wouldn't recommend it to everybody; it's not for the faint of heart," he said.

Since its April release, the reflection from the 13-track "Underneath" has been pretty good. It was written, performed and produced primarily by the brothers, with a little songwriting help from respected alt-rockers Matthew Sweet and New Radical leader Gregg Alexander, and production help from veteran session guitarist/producer Danny Kortchmar. The record has received middling to very good reviews. Billboard called it "the group's most endearing," and "charming," while The Washington Times said "steeped in old R&B and classic '60s pop, the brothers appreciate a good hook and know how to craft one on their own."

Though they've grown, their image is still that of three well-adjusted All-American boys singing happy tunes for happy teens.

The kind of cheerful, grounded, happy young men whom every dad hopes his daughter brings home to dinner. But "Underneath" contains some surprisingly adult ruminations on love gone bad, specifically the quartet of songs "Misery," "Lost Without Each Other," "When You're Gone" and the title track.

Do these heartbreak tunes mean that somewhere there are females who hold chunks of the Hanson brothers' broken hearts, or are they simply mining the same old territory that songwriters have drawn from for years? "I don't think you have to have your heart broken to understand," Isaac said.

"People ask how much of the music is autobiographical and do you feel like you have to experience things to write about it, and my answer to that is Michael Crichton didn't experience 'Jurassic Park.'"

So, if you're an artist and you have a creative mind, you can pretty much understand. The emotions are there to be felt and had, and I think we all kind of understand them, whether we have experienced them literally or not. But, yeah, everybody's had their heart broken at one point or another, that's for sure.

"What we feel really lucky about is that we're doing as much as we're doing and were still maintaining our independence, which is a rare thing."

Horoscope

The moon is void of course for much of the day, so if you feel a bit directionless, it's natural. Sometimes, a lack of direction can be positive — you're open to options instead of being rigidly set in your own way. Then, this afternoon, the Aries moon will bring bright new energy and a fresh start to whatever alternative you select.

Joyce Jillson



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(July 7). Set your sights high this year to be inviolate like a diamond. This month and next, your feelings for loved ones deepen, and those bonds are strengthened through shared experiences, especially travel. August is prime time to take that vacation you put off before. For new love relationships, Sagittarius cherishes you, and Taurus provides for you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A momentary lapse in judgment makes an authority figure seem like the all-powerful granter of happiness and success, but this couldn't be further from the truth. You're a brilliant communicator when you're feeling confident.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If your day is riddled with challenges, don't worry — it only means you're playing a big enough game. Just as Red Light/Green Light would be a fun activity for teenagers, a day free of extra demand would be complete bore for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your colleagues hold you in high esteem, but you might secretly wish they didn't, for all the pressure it brings. Your lesson is like So Spider-Man's: With great talent comes great responsibility. Your love life sizzles with possibility.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Maybe you'll miss a few of the subtle innuendoes — the new relationships cropping up between colleagues, the secret opinions that are made obvious through body language and so on. It's called being focused.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The practical way of getting results is not the fastest way, the most pleasurable way or the cheapest way. Put

your sensors out in the cosmic energy field. You'll get ideas that, if applied, will definitely improve your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The grounding energy around you is an excellent environment to work out relationship problems. You will be able to communicate calmly, and solutions will be clear. Singles: Get more involved with your own passions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Although your spirits are high, it still feels like there are invisible cords connecting you to that oppressive force. What would it take for you to live more freely? Romantically, you could really make a go of it with a Taurus or Capricorn.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). In Hollywood, there's a saying that "You're only as good as your last picture." This seems to apply, as you feel like you're being assessed at every juncture. The good news is that you're blowing it all off of proper.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You thrive under the influence of good old-fashioned labor. Whether it's digging in the yard or cooking from ingredients in their raw form, the result is a proud feeling of accomplishment.

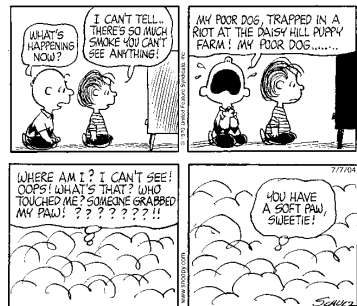
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). If you have the gumption to ask for what you want, you'll feel like a million regardless of whether or not you get it. Bravery is one of your top values, and you deserve those back pats and much more for your effort.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are capable of more. Stretch your mind to include the idea of performing an impossible feat. The grass may look greener on the other side of the fence, but this will be true no matter whose yard you are standing in.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You go out of your way to make things fun for your loved ones, and they feel flattered that you take the time and thought to delight them. Before you max out your plastic, keep in mind that the simple gestures touch hearts.

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts



Calvin and Hobbes



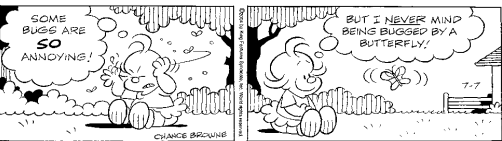
Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse

Choice: Cash or independence

Dear Abby: I am a 20-year-old, single college student. I live on my own and work two jobs in order to make ends meet.

I recently told my dad I want to move back home, because working two jobs and going to school is wearing me out. My dad is very excited at the prospect.

The reason I moved out was my stepmother. I can't stand her. She is very controlling, and we never gotten along.

I have tried to make peace with her since I left, but she is still the same. She tells me what time I should be home at night when I go out with my friends. Abby, at this point I am used to being on my own and not having to account to anyone for my time. How am I going to make this drastic change?

— **Troubled in Tennessee**
Dear Troubled: By gritting your teeth and recognizing that

there's no free lunch. Instead of paying rent for a roof over your head, you will be sacrificing some of your freedom.

Once you accept that this is an exchange — and that it will help you achieve a goal — you'll adapt. However, if you can't accept the terms, I advise you to stay where you are, because moving back will only cause aggravation for all concerned.

Dear Abby



Dear Abby: My parents watched two of my younger children last week while my husband and I took our older children on vacation. Today, while helping my 5-year-old daughter visit a Barbie Web site, I discovered someone had used my computer to extensively visit a pornographic Web site.

We have three computers, and my father had access only to this one. Our other computers were unconnected. I know these Web sites were not on my computer

when we left. Our family has always joked with my dad about the amount of time he spends on computers, but we assumed it was for work.

Should I tell my parents what I found? The bottom line is I do not want this material in my house, nor do I want someone around my kids who engages in this behavior. Please advise.

— **Not in My House**
Dear Not: Tell your parents what you found and let your father know that you feel he betrayed your trust. To ensure that it doesn't happen again, either install parental control software on your computers or discuss it with your Internet service provider so access to these sites can be blocked.

Once that's done, I see no reason to keep your children from a loving grandfather as long as he views his adult material in his own home, in private.

Letters for this column — with your name and address — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at: <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>
Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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OSANTA
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REPHOG
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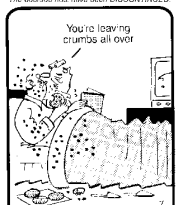
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Yesterday's

Jumbles: HUMID VAGUE ABSORB INNING

Answer: Mountain climbers will do this while they rest — HANG AROUND

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argentin
The 800/995 ridds. have been DISCONTINUED



EATING CHOCOLATE CHIPS IN BED CAN CREATE THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

“□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □”

(Answers tomorrow)

Employers should reply to applicants

Dear Annie: I have worked for 23 years doing building maintenance.

Three years ago, I decided it was time for a change. I still have a job, so I can take my time and be selective about sending out my resume.

Recently, I was called for an interview. Since I had downloaded the application off the Internet, I redid it so it would look nice. I wanted to show my attention to detail. The interviewer was impressed that I had taken the time to edit the application and indicated that the interview went smashingly well. I e-mailed the interviewer, thanking her.

That was two weeks ago. I haven't heard a word since, and the position opens up in three days. I think if an employer asks me to spend my time preparing a resume, downloading and filling out their application, dressing up and driving an hour to an interview, the least they could do is

Annie's Mailbox



send me a note saying they hired someone else.

Why can't a company give me five minutes and a stamp to say I didn't get the job?

— **Disappointed in Seattle**

Dear Seattle: Too many companies do not feel the need to let an applicant know he didn't get the job, but you are right, they absolutely should send a note indicating that the position has been filled.

It often helps to follow up the initial interview with a phone call four to five days later and ask if a decision has been made. It shows you are interested and keeps you in their thoughts.

Instead of stewing over it, call the interviewer and ask her what happened.

Dear Annie: My fiancé and I picked our wedding date long before we were officially engaged (18 months ago). Everyone

knew. Last month, my cousin picked the exact same day. I was surprised but have not spoken to her about it, nor will I.

Of course, many friends and family members have said it was quite rude on her part to pick the same day, regardless of her excuse that it was “the only day available.”

What is the proper protocol in this situation? Our extended family knows I picked the date first. Should the family try to attend both, leaving one of the receptions early?

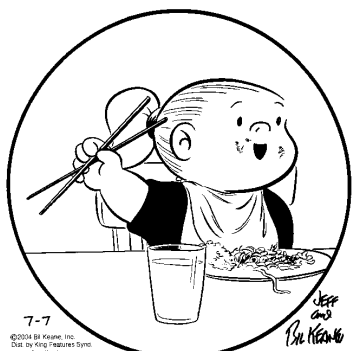
— **Baffled Bride-to-Be**

Dear Bride: Kudos to you for choosing not to be angry with your cousin. Knowing you had selected this date, she should have made every effort to find a different one. Since she didn't, however, it is up to the guests to decide how they wish to divide their time. We recommend getting those invitations out soon.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

Family Circus



7-7
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“Did you know they wrote a song about chopsticks?”

GRAFFITI



Dennis the Menace



The Far Side



Non Sequitur



SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

(All times Central European, AFN-AF: Africa; PAC: Pacific; Korea: South; Asia: Asia; relayed; cut-off two-hour 90-minute cut-down. Listings are latest available. AFN-AS and AS to change with out notice.)

Television

Baseball — Cincinnati at St. Louis, 9 a.m. Thursday (dpt), SPT; Tampa Bay at New York, 7 p.m. Wednesday, SPT; Oakland at Los Angeles, Thursday, 4 p.m. Thursday, San Diego, 4 a.m. Thursday, SPT; Anaheim at Miami, Thursday, 4 p.m. Thursday, SPT.

Boxing — Tonight Night Fights, Courtney B. Vance, 11 (KOs) vs. Hernandez (15 KOs), 11:30 p.m. Wednesday, SPT.

Motor racing — Motorcycle GP of Brazil, 1 p.m. Thursday (dpt), SPT; American Le Mans Series, 4 a.m. Thursday, SPT.

Outdoors — Bassmaster Elite 50, 9 a.m. Wednesday (dpt), SPT.

Radio

(Listings are feeds from AFN in California. Some might not air in all areas.)

Baseball — Texas at Cleveland, 1 a.m. Thursday. Can be reached at (59) 329-4444 or German chat (#49) 329-4444. AFN 444 AFN German chat (#49) www.afnradio.net can be reached at (#49) 329-4444.

Baseball — Cincinnati at St. Louis, 9 a.m. Thursday (dpt), SPT; Tampa Bay at New York, 7 p.m. Wednesday, SPT; Oakland at Los Angeles, Thursday, 4 p.m. Thursday, San Diego, 4 a.m. Thursday, SPT; Anaheim at Miami, Thursday, 4 p.m. Thursday, SPT.

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10. Oscar Pereda II, Spain, Phonak Hearing Systems, 25 seconds behind.

11. Jody Linder, United States, Team CSC, 26 seconds behind.

12. George Hincapié, United States, U.S. Postal Service, 26 seconds behind.

13. Tom Boonen, Belgium, Quick Step-Devo, 28 seconds behind.

14. Angel Vicioso, Spain, Liberty Seguros, 29 seconds behind.

15. Juan Carlos Fernandez, Spain, Team CSC, 29 seconds behind.

16. Floyd Landis, United States, U.S. Postal Service, 32 seconds behind.

17. Tyler Hamilton, United States, Phonak Hearing Systems, 32 seconds behind.

18. Jose Azevedo, Portugal, U.S. Postal Service, 33 seconds behind.

19. Juan Luis Rubiera, Spain, U.S. Postal Service, 34 seconds behind.

20. Valeriy Kovalyov, Russia, U.S. Postal Service, 35 seconds behind.

21. Manuel Beltrán, Spain, U.S. Postal Service, 36 seconds behind.

22. Christian Vandewiele, United States, Liberty Seguros, 4 minutes, 34 seconds behind.

23. Benjamin Noval Gonzalez, Spain, U.S. Postal Service, 9 minutes, 37 seconds behind.

24. Prologue, Liege, Belgium to Liege, individual time trial.

25. Fabrice Wauters, Belgium to Charleroi, Belgium, 15:20.

26. Uchi Kibane, Estonia; Cancellara, Nicolas, 15:20.

27. Robbie McEwen, Australia; Thor Hushovd, Norway, 15:20.

28. Stage 6, Waterloo, Belgium to Wavre, Belgium, 15:20.

29. Stage 4, Cambrai to Arras, team time trial, 40:08.

30. Stage 5, Amiens to Chartres, 12:49.

31. Stage 6, Bormael to Angers, 12:19.

32. Stage 7, Chateaubriant to Saint-Brieuc, 12:08.

33. Stage 8, Lamballe to Quimper, 10:46.

34. Stage 9, Saint-Leonard-de-Noblat to Gueret, 10:17.

35. Stage 10, Limoges to Saint-Four, 14:27.

36. Stage 11, Limoges to Figeac, 10:31.

37. Stage 12, Castelsarrasin to La Motte, 12:23.

38. Stage 13, Lannemezan to Plateau de Bellefleur, 10:27.

39. Stage 14, Carcassonne to Nîmes, 11:30.

40. Stage 15, Rest du jour.

41. Stage 16, Versailles to Villard-de-Lans, 12:15.

42. Stage 17, Bourg-d'Oisans to Le Grand Bornand, 17:08.

43. Stage 18, Annemasse to Lesne-Saint-Jean, 10:46.

44. Stage 19, Lesne-Saint-Jean to Besancon, individual time trial, 34:11.

45. Stage 20, Montreaux to Paris, Criterium-Elysees, 10:29.

46. Stage 21, Paris to Paris, Criterium-Elysees, 10:29.

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162. Stage 137

Mallon's Open victory one for the ages

While early focus was on teen amateurs, golfer became just third in 40s to win title

By DOUG FERGUSON

The Associated Press

SOUTH HADLEY, Mass. — Juli Inkster finished her final round as Meg Mallon was getting ready to tee off. Her bags packed, she asked her husband for the green pass that allowed each player to have one guest walk inside the ropes during the U.S. Women's Open, knowing Mallon's large family could use another one.

Inkster could have told Mallon's two brothers what to expect, because she had seen it all before.

Two years ago, Inkster had her own homecoming of sorts in the Women's Open at Prairie Dunes in Kansas. Returning to the scene of her first U.S. Women's Amateur title, Inkster was a picture of poise in the final round and clutch with her putter, closing with the best round of her life to win her second Open title at age 42.

Now, Mallon and Inkster share more than a friendship that spans two decades.

In a tiny New England town about an hour or so from where she was born, Mallon brought a record gallery to its feet at Orchards Golf Club by taking only 24 putts in the best round ever by a Women's Open champion, a 6-under 65 on the way to a two-stroke victory.

"I just can't believe the day that I had," Mallon said. "Today was magical."

Mallon, 41, joined Inkster and Babe Zaharias (43) as the only women in their 40s to win a Women's Open.

And the similarities don't end there.

The runner-up on the plains of Kansas and in the quaintness of western Massachusetts was none other than the best player in women's golf, Annika Sorenstam, who played the kind of golf that usually wins the Open.

Sorenstam played in the final group at Prairie Dunes with a two-shot lead and shot a hardy 70, and still lost. On Sunday at the Orchards, she shot 4-under 67 and again was left with the silver medal.

"It's very similar — unfortunately," Sorenstam said. "Meg just played extraordinarily today. To shoot 6 under on Sunday at the U.S. Open, that's as good as it gets. I thought I played excellent. It just wasn't enough."

Perhaps it was only fitting that Mallon

would up holding the trophy.

The focus was on youth in this U.S. Women's Open, with a record 16 teenagers in the field. Brittany Lincicome, 18, shot 66 in the first round to take the lead and match the lowest score ever by an amateur. Two of them — 14-year-old Michelle Wie and 17-year-old Paula Creamer — got all the attention, and rightfully so.

They played like they belong on the LPGA Tour, both finishing at 1-over 285 in a tie for 13th.

Creamer played a practice round Wednesday with Mallon, 47-year-old Beth Daniel and 38-year-old Liselotte Neumann, and her game looked every bit as strong.

"It's been fun to watch her game — definitely in the course management," Creamer said. "The short game is unbelievable. I hit my irons probably just as good as anybody, but if I could make more putts, it would be a big difference."

She'll learn.

The U.S. Open almost always comes down to putting, and this week — this year — has been no exception.

Three weeks ago at Shinnecock Hills, Retief Goosen took only 24 putts in the final round of the U.S. Open to beat Phil Mickelson by two shots. He made every important putt on the back nine, three of them for par and one of them to save bogey and stay in the lead.

Mallon was equally impressive in a final round in which she had to make up a three-shot deficit.

It started with a 50-foot birdie putt from the back of the fourth green. She had one-putt greens four times during a five-hole stretch in the middle of the round that staked her to a two-shot lead, and none was bigger than a 25-foot putt from just off the green on 15 that rattled the put and disappeared.

"I was so relaxed over that putt and it goes in, and what are you going to do?" Mallon said. "It's your day when things like that happen. I was just seeing the hole like a bucket today, and it was fun."

Nothing was sweeter than the final walk up the 18th fairway, although Mallon wouldn't allow herself to think about the trophy until she coziered a 25-foot putt to tap-in range.



Meg Mallon kisses the trophy after winning the U.S. Women's Open at the Orchards Golf Club in South Hadley, Mass. on Sunday. She shot a final-round 65 to win by two strokes.

There could not have been a more popular winner at Orchards.

Mallon is a Massachusetts native, although she moved away when she was 11 months old. The bond remains strong since her five brothers and sisters were raised in New England and she returned as a kid to spend summers in Cape Cod. She is friends

with former Boston Celtics coach K.C. Jones and remains loyal to the Boston Red Sox.

The Red Sox have gone 86 years since last winning a World Series title.

Mallon only had to wait 13 years following her first Women's Open victory at Colonial in 1991, still the longest gap in history. But this one was well worth the wait.

Woods hopes continuous tweaking pays off in British Open

LEMONT, Ill. — The driver was new and his attitude decidedly more fan-friendly. There were familiar flashes of the old brilliance, too, especially during a third round when he flirted with the course record and played his way into contention.

But Tiger Woods is still stuck in the same groove. Still taking one step back for every two forward. Still rummaging through his golf bag for the piece of kryptonite somebody stashed deep inside.

To those still wondering whether his troubles are over, the answer still depends on whom you ask.

"Like I said yesterday, I needed to give me a lot of looks and I did. Unfortunately, they were 20, 30 feet on every hole. That's fine if you're leading the tournament," he said. "But I wasn't leading the tournament."

Woods closed with an even-par 71 Sunday at wind-swept Cog Hill Golf Club for seventh in the Western Open, a tournament he's won three times, including last year's record-setting, wire-to-wire victory.

Jim Litke



too long. Over the four days, there was plenty of evidence to bolster either view.

Woods showed up Thursday wielding a graphite-shafted driver with a head big enough to use as a spare bedroom. But he hit it just like the old one — wildly. On Friday, he gained command of the driver and promptly lost control of the irons. Stone-faced, he wrestled with the same affliction weekend golfers know only too well

— find one piece of the puzzle and lose another — and cobbled together a worse-than-it-looked-on-the-scorecard 73, nearly missing the cut.

Moments later, he limped off to the range and pounded practice balls for an hour. While his work ethic has never been questioned, the effectiveness of his practice routine has been, increasingly, since Woods' very public breakup with swing coach Butch Harmon.

Woods still handles questions about those sessions as though he was being asked about state secrets, refusing to say what he works on, or why. But whatever Woods did on the range the previous afternoon worked like magic Saturday. He birdied his first three holes and sprinkled in another six throughout the round en route to a 65, vaulting 44 spots up the leaderboard to sixth and within four shots of the lead.

He seemed so pleased to be playing well that, after making par on his 11th hole of the day, Woods pulled the ball out of the cup, wrote a message on it and handed it to

a father sitting alongside his son in a wheelchair. And he was still so juiced at the end that at his final hole — a 600-yard, par 5 — Woods smashed a 2-iron from 264 yards out over the green.

"I worked on a few things yesterday and felt a lot more comfortable with them," he said afterward, still grinning. "I just went out there and trusted the swing I worked on at the range."

On the bright side, Woods hits some exceptional "stingers" off the tees, those low, hard-running iron shots that are necessary to master the British Open courses. And he was just as good off the fairways with his wind-cheating approach shots, making it tempting to think that his majors drought could end soon at Troon, alongside the Irish Sea.

"I've got a whole arsenal I can work with out there," Woods said, "and hopefully I'll have that two weeks from now."

Hopefully.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at: jlitke@ap.org

Despite bumpy ride, Armstrong in good shape after third stage

American in fourth place after conquering cobblestones

BY JOHN LEICESTER

The Associated Press

WASQUEHAL, France — Lance Armstrong turned two treacherous and cobblestone stretches of the Tour de France to his advantage Tuesday while Spanish rival Ivan Mayo crashed in a blow to his title hopes.

Mayo lost 3 minutes, 48 seconds to Armstrong in the third stage. Armstrong, meanwhile, kept alive his bid for a record sixth straight victory in cycling's showpiece race.

"Ugh, that's unbelievable," the Texan said in summing up the difficult day.

Armstrong is fifth overall, 16 seconds behind leader Robbie McEwen of Australia. Armstrong will look to take the lead in the later mountain stages and time trials in a race that ends July 25 in Paris.

Jean-Patrick Nazon of France won the stage from Waterloo in Belgium to Wasquehal in northern France, beating Germany's Erik Zabel and McEwen in a sprint finish.

Armstrong's U.S. Postal Service squad was ruthless, powering to the front of the speeding main pack of riders before hitting the first of the bone-shaking, dangerous and dusty cobble tracks on the 130-mile route.

The team safely shepherded the five-time champion across the obstacle. Other rivals, including 1997 Tour champion Jan Ullrich and Tyler Hamilton of the United States, also were unscathed.

"I had some experienced guys there to help me out," Armstrong said, referring to teammates George Hincapie and Viatcheslav Ekinov. Tour veterans who helped him over the cobble-

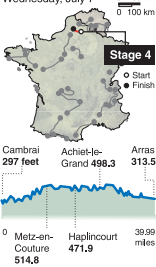
91st TOUR DE FRANCE

French to stay

Cambrai—the first French start—begins this team time trial stage to Arras, which used to begin the "Hell of the North" section.

Stage 4

Wednesday, July 7



Source: Tour de France

AP

stones, emerging with dusted back on their sweaty faces.

Mayo went down as teams were battling fiercely—juggling for position and riding almost flat out—to place themselves at the front of the pack before hitting the bumpy stretch. The front was the best place to be. Those behind risked being pelted with blinding dust or caught in crashes.

As Mayo struggled back to his feet with a gaping tear in his shorts and resumed racing, Armstrong and his Postals zoomed

ahead.

Looking to put the Spaniard away for good, they piled on the pace, trailing a pack of riders behind them.

Mayo, stuck with a second group of riders behind, couldn't make up the lost ground. He finished 15:51 of the 184 riders that crossed the finish line.

Overall, after just four days of racing, Mayo trails Armstrong by 4:07. He can still make up time in later mountain stages that are his specialty. But four minutes is a giant gap. He risks losing yet more to Armstrong on Wednesday, in a team time trial that the Postals won last year and are among the favorites to win again.

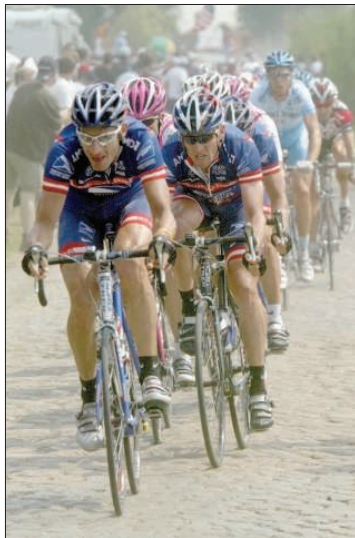
"Today, you could not win the Tour de France but you could lose the Tour," said Johan Bruyneel, sports manager for Armstrong's team. "Almost four minutes for Mayo is a very, very important gap."

McEwen, winner of Monday's stage, took the overall race lead and the yellow jersey that goes with it because of time bonuses earned for his sprinting.

"I would have preferred to have won the stage," he said. "But it's great to wear the yellow jersey in the Tour de France. It's a first for me. It was a difficult stage. Very hard."

The two cobblestone tracks weren't long—together totaling 2.4 miles—but they proved decisive. Armstrong had warned a day earlier that they could finish some riders' Tours. He was right.

At least four other riders were caught in the crash that took down Mayo. They included Italian Marco Velo, who finished in a roadside ditch, his collarbone broken, his Tour over.



AP

U.S. Postal Service teammates George Hincapie, foreground, Lance Armstrong, right, and T-Mobile team leader Jan Ullrich of Germany, center rear, ride through the cobblestone section of Etre, Belgium, during the third stage of the Tour de France between Waterloo, Belgium, and Wasquehal, northern France, on Tuesday.

The cobblestones usually form part of the Paris-Roubaix race, a grueling classic known as "The Hell of the North." Not since 1985 had the Tour veered onto cobbles. Some teams and riders complained they should not have been included in cycling's premier event.

Armstrong was of two minds. "Some people's Tour will be finished," he said Monday. "I

could be one of those people, and I'm not dumb enough to think that I couldn't be. And that would be a shame."

"But at the same time, the cobbles are a big part of French cycling," he added.

"If you look at Paris-Roubaix, they are a beautiful thing, if you look at it like that, you should say they should be part of the Tour."

Miami football recruit gets three years' probation

The Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Top Miami football recruit Willie Williams was sentenced to three years' probation Tuesday for violating probation on a burglary conviction.

He could have faced up to a year in jail, but the prosecution didn't request jail time.

"I just feel so great right now," the 19-year-old player said. "I feel magnificent. Words can't express what this means to me."

Williams must perform 250 hours of community service while on probation, and is banned from drinking alcohol and taking unprescribed drugs. He'll be subject to random testing.

Williams' lawyers said it was important to the school that the player not have a felony conviction, and the judge agreed.

Defense attorney Paul Lazarus said he's "extremely optimistic"

Sports briefs

Miami will accept Williams. Another lawyer for Williams, Bradford Cohen, said he expects the university to hold a hearing within two weeks.

Miami athletic director Paul Dee said now that Williams' sentence is known, the school will determine whether to admit him.

The 6-foot-2, 225-pound linebacker starred at Carol City High School in Miami. He is a Parade All-American and the No. 2-ranked high school player in the country by SuperPrep magazine after last season.

Williams told the judge he understood the risks of going to state prison if he violates probation again. As part of his probation, Williams must undergo a psychological evaluation and get any recommended treatment.

Fearing for his safety, Stange resigns as Iraq soccer coach

BERLIN — Fearing for his safety, Bernd Stange said Monday he has resigned as coach of Iraq's national soccer team.

Stange had a contract with the Iraqi Soccer Federation that ran until 2006. The German said he was warned his life would be in danger if he returned to Iraq.

"We agreed to that on the telephone four days ago and wanted to announce it officially on Tuesday. But someone, unfortunately, let the news out early," Stange was quoted as saying by the German news agency dpa.

Stange has been in Jordan since April 8, when the German Foreign Ministry advised him to leave Iraq.

He said he was unable to do his job because he only sees his players when they are playing home games, which have been moved

to Jordan, or at occasional training camps outside Iraq.

Federer wins in rout after Wimbledon victory

GSTAAD, Switzerland — Roger Federer picked up where he left off after winning Wimbledon, routing Germany's Tomas Behrend 6-1, 6-1 Tuesday in the first round of the clay-court Swiss Open.

A ceremony was held on center court before the match to honor the top-ranked Swiss star's second straight Wimbledon crown.

Federer joined in to play a tune on a traditional Swiss alpen horn.

Federer recorded his 21st victory in his last 22 matches. He has won three titles during the stretch: Hamburg and Halle, both in Germany, and Wimbledon.

Federer, who posted his 24th straight grass-court victory in Sunday's Grand Slam final, is

making his seventh appearance in Gstaad but is still seeking his first tournament title in his home country.

Earlier, second-seeded Juan Carlos Ferrero of Spain lost 7-6 (4), 6-4 to Stefan Koucký of Austria.

Two-time Indy 500 winner Ward dies at 83

INDIANAPOLIS — Two-time Indianapolis 500 champion Rodger Ward died Monday at a hospice in Anaheim, Calif., Indianapolis Motor Speedway said.

At 83, Ward was the oldest living winner of the race. He won in 1959 and 1962, during a six-year span in which he finished no worse than fourth.

Ward was second to A.J. Foyt in 1964, failed to qualify in 1965 and drove for the 15th and final time in 1966, finishing 15th. The next night, at the Victory Banquet, Ward announced his retirement at 45.

McGrady deal has made Houston a hotbed

Rockets a popular team for fans and free agents

BY JOEL ANDERSON
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The crowd beckoned Tracy McGrady, chanting his name and cheering at a Jumbotron video showing some of his most impressive highlights.

McGrady finally obliged, taking his first steps onto the court at the Toyota Center and smiling widely at the 2,500 fans who came to greet him last week for his introductory news conference with the Houston Rockets. The spirited welcome almost brought McGrady to tears.

"He asked me," Rockets General Manager Carroll Dawson said, "if we paid those people to show up."

No, the Houston Rockets have quite simply become one of the NBA's marquee teams again in the wake of their blockbuster trade with Orlando. The Rockets landed two-time scoring champ McGrady, forward Juwan Howard and guards Tyrone Lue and Reece Gaines in the deal, and sent Steve Francis, Dettin Mobley and Kelvin Cato to the Magic.

McGrady now joins 7-foot-6 center Yao Ming to form an All-Star combination that could

be as exciting as the Los Angeles Lakers' championship duo of Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant.

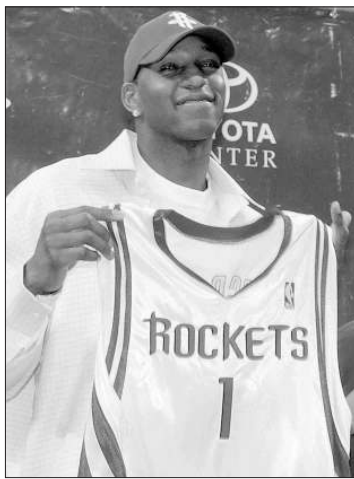
Plenty of NBA free agents and fans are now trying to jump aboard the Rockets' bandwagon, captivated by the prospect of being part of helping Houston undergo a basketball renaissance.

"It's going to be a hotbed for free agency because of the team they have," said Craig McKenzie, agent for Spurs' free-agent point guard Charlie Ward. "The Rockets are high on our priority list. They seem to be building something really special there."

"It's going to be a hotbed for free agency because of the team they have. The Rockets are high on our priority list. They seem to be building something really special there."

Craig McKenzie
NBA agent

defections and the always-questionable health of top star Chris Webber. The San Antonio Spurs are still looking for the right mix of players to complement two-time MVP Tim Duncan. And the Minnesota Timberwolves have an aging backcourt tandem in Sam Cassell and Latrell



Tracy McGrady smiled broadly and showed off his new jersey when he was introduced to the Houston media and fans on June 30. The Rockets have become one of the NBA's marquee teams and a prime destination for free agents in the wake of their blockbuster trade.

Spewell.

If the Rockets make another smart trade and land a good free agent or two, they could make a huge leap in the West next year.

"The Rockets are a terrific organization and obviously they've got a couple of great pieces," said

Mark Bartelstein, agent for Lakers' free-agent point guard Derek Fisher. "Certainly they're a team that anybody in the league would be looking at seriously."

Free-agent point guards like Fisher, Minnesota's Troy Hudson and Seattle's Brent Barry have all

expressed an interest in joining the Rockets, and Dawson is sifting through the offers and other potential trades to land someone who doesn't mind feeding the ball to Yao and McGrady for the next few years.

"We've got a lot of opportunities," said Dawson, who's also on the lookout for a backup center or power forward. "Fortunately for us, we've a hot team right now because of this trade. Probably half the calls I've talked on were made to us. That's good. It's a little bit easier than when you have to beat the bushes."

Selling season tickets has become much easier, too.

At this time last year, the Rockets had sold no season ticket packages — even though the team was about to unveil its sparkling new arena and Yao was coming off an impressive rookie season.

This year, however, the buzz around the trade has resulted in the sale of almost 650 season tickets.

The trade has got us an extra big boost," said Tim McDougall, the Rockets' vice president of marketing. "To get people to focus on basketball at all this time of year, that's pretty good. The phones were ringing all day after the trade."

All of which makes it seem that the Rockets are ready for a return to the halcyon days of Hakeem Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler.

The dynamic — and marketable — duo of Yao and T-Mac, an arena full of reinvigorated fans and an opportunity to seize the moment in the weakened West make the Rockets an easy sell to free agents and fans.

"I'm looking for something great happening in the city of Houston," McGrady said, "and, believe me, something great is going to happen."

That's exactly what the Rockets are counting on.

Hawks hire Pistons assistant Woodson to be head coach

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Mike Woodson agreed to coach the Atlanta Hawks after working as the top assistant last year for the NBA champion Detroit Pistons.

"They have offered the job and hopefully everything will be wrapped up sometime [Tuesday] and I'll be on a plane Wednesday night or Thursday morning for Atlanta," Woodson told The Associated Press on Tuesday by phone from his Houston home.

Woodson said he was still completing negotiations with the Hawks but considered the final details minor.

He said he agreed to a four-year deal to replace Terry Stotts, who was fired May 6. The Hawks went 28-54 last season and have missed the playoffs for five straight years.

"We've got a lot of work to do, we're kind of starting from the bottom up," Woodson said. "What better way to put your name on something and try to build than from the bottom up?"

Woodson, an assistant for Pistons coach Larry Brown, was a finalist for jobs in Toronto and Philadelphia the past two years.



Mike Woodson

right way, and you've got a great guy in Billy Knight who I've known since high school," Woodson said. "We were teammates at one time as players. He hasn't wavered one bit in terms of our friendship and I think he looked at me in that regard as well."

Knight had no immediate comment. Woodson, 47, has been an assistant for four teams. He came with Brown from Philadelphia to Detroit for the 2003-04 season. He also played in the NBA for 11 seasons.

Woodson will become the 10th coach of the Hawks since the franchise moved to At-

lanta in 1968.

Indiana assistant Mike Brown, Dallas assistant Del Harris, former Phoenix coach John MacLeod, Seattle associate head coach Dwayne Case, former Cleveland and Atlanta coach Mike Fratello also spoke to the media with Knight. Knight also spoke to TV analyst Kenny Smith about the job.

Akafu not on Bobcats' summer league team

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Charlotte Bobcats have selected their summer league team, and top draft pick Emeka Okafor isn't on it.

Okafor, the No. 2 overall pick in the NBA Draft, has gone to Los Angeles to work with a personal trainer in preparation for the Olympics.

"He's working on some individual skills and also our program," coach Bernie Bickerstaff said Monday.

Bickerstaff said Okafor would not be among the 14 players opening summer league play Tuesday in Minnesota. He also won't play on the team that goes to Utah later this month.

The Bobcats are concerned that Okafor will be tired from too much summer basketball when the NBA season begins. So they've limited what he'll do in Charlotte

since he's sure to have a busy schedule with the U.S. Olympic team.

Bickerstaff would like Okafor back with the Bobcats for their training session next week, but isn't sure it will happen.

Jazz reach agreements with Okur, Giricek

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah Jazz have verbal commitments from restricted free agents Mehmet Okur and Gordon Giricek.

The Jazz would not release terms of either agreement, other than to say they were multiyear contracts, Utah Vice President for Basketball Operations Kevin O'Connor said Monday night.

Detroit TV station WDIV reported the offer to Okur was for between \$42 million and \$48 million for six years.

Okur should help where the Jazz need it most — inside scoring. Okur averaged 9.6 points in 34 rebounding in his second NBA season, and at age 25 fits the Jazz's plan to rebuild with young players.

Giricek joined the Jazz after coming over in a deadline deal with Orlando for DeShawn Stevenson last season. He averaged 13.5 points in 25 games with the Jazz. Utah was impressed with Giricek right away and made a qualifying offer for him to stay on July 1, the day free agent negotiations could begin.

NBA
briefs

Younger players prompting NBA, college coaches to blend

BY DAVID WHARTON

Los Angeles Times

Less than two months ago, at a news conference introducing him as the coach of the Golden State Warriors, Mike Montgomery said: "I'm sure this is a surprise to some of you, maybe a shock."

A shock because after nearly two decades at Stanford, Montgomery was a college basketball icon, his legacy chiseled in stone, the sort of coach who has traditionally spurned the NBA.

The shock has worn off fast. An even bigger name than the college ranks, Mike Krzyzewski, spent the weekend weighing an offer from the Los Angeles Lakers, and, though he declined on Monday, the fact he would consider leaving Duke — where he has a lifetime contract, where the coach bears his name — implies a shift in the landscape.

Jim Calhoun, coach of defending national champion Connecticut, goes so far as to muse about "a deep unrest" among college coaches.

The game has changed. More young players are leaving school early to enter the NBA draft. More teenagers are skipping college altogether, jumping from high school to the pros.

"You get a kid who you think will change your whole program, make you a national powerhouse, and he leaves," USC coach Henry Bibby said.

Last month, USC said highly touted recruit Robert Swift slip away to become a first-round choice by the Seattle SuperSonics.

"That makes it tougher to win in college," Bibby said. "It hurts." Montgomery left Stanford shortly after losing junior Josh Childress to the draft, a blow to a team with national championship hopes.

At Duke, which has been immune to this phenomenon for many years, star freshman Laetel Deng and blue-chip recruit Shaun Livingston also opted for last month's draft. Livingston was drafted fourth overall by the Los Angeles Clippers.

People around Krzyzewski guessed these developments had to affect a coach who has amassed more than 600 victories and three national championships with the Blue Devils.

"I'm sure that's frustrating when you recruit a kid and they don't show up, and you recruit a kid and they come for one year and leave," Duke athletic director Joe Alleva said last week.

From another perspective, this dynamic might be causing NBA general managers to take a closer look at college coaches.

For many years, the two games were thought of as oil and water. College was about motivation and teaching. The pros required a businesslike approach, dealing with billionaires on the court and billionaire owners in the front office.



Mike Krzyzewski has decided he's content at Duke despite the changing landscape of college basketball, which has prompted some college coaches to consider following the young players they recruit to the NBA.

But with more and more teenagers entering the pro ranks, the NBA might need a little more of the college approach.

"It's a new breed of players," said Bibby, who would lead a way through pro basketball's minor leagues before taking over at USC. "The college coach would be able to relate to these younger players."

Another piece of the puzzle — an emerging picture of successful college coaches willing to switch — is money.

Montgomery reportedly got a four-year, \$10 million deal from the Warriors.

The Lakers reportedly offered Krzyzewski \$8 million a year. That figure would have dwarfed his present contract and endorsements, most recently reported at \$1.3 million annually.

"A lot of college coaches make good money, but that's certainly a factor," said Lou Kruger, whose coaching career has taken him from high-profile NCAA jobs to the Atlanta Hawks and back to college at Nevada Las Vegas.

And the NBA doesn't have anything like the NCAA's labyrinthine manual, with its rules on recruiting and team meals and how a coach may conduct practices.

"I think all that stuff rolled into one gets you down," Calhoun said.

Still, Kruger and others warn, the NBA has its own set of drawbacks.

The pro season can be a grind, longer and more tightly packed, leaving less time for practice. Older players can be considerably less open to coaching.

John Wooden, who turned down NBA offers during his legendary career at UCLA, said: "Most college coaches like to teach, and there's not that much teaching that goes on in the pros." The mind-set differs in another critical way.

"You have to learn to deal with losing," said University of Mem-

phis coach John Calipari, who had an NBA stint with the New Jersey Nets. "You don't have any two- or three-less seasons in the pros. . . In fact, you may lose two or three games in a week's time."

Away from the court, pro coaches answer to bosses who can be more fickle than the average university president.

"You'd better be sure you're hooked at the hip with the owner and management, so you're sure that you're on the same page," Kruger said.

So college coaches thinking about the NBA have numerous factors to consider.

On one side is a list of successful college coaches — including Kruger and Calipari, Rich Pitino and Leonard Hamilton — who have struggled in making the transition to the pros.

On the other is a fresh memory of Larry Brown showing it can be done, becoming the first coach to win NCAA and NBA championships with his Detroit Pistons defeated the Lakers.

Moreover, Brown did it with a team that exhibited some college-like characteristics — a devotion to teamwork and defense.

At a Monday afternoon news conference in Durham, N.C., Krzyzewski talked about his decision to remain at Duke.

He spoke of family — three grown daughters and grandchildren in the area — and his close association with the university, where he carries an additional title of special assistant to the president.

He spoke of "the great game of college basketball."

Maybe it wasn't an appropriate day to address the state of his profession but, given the current set of frustrations, his athletic director sounded relieved.

"Today's really a happy day," Alleva said. "It's a great day for college basketball."

Times staff writers Bill Dwyre and Reyn Wood contributed to this report.

With Coach K out, Lakers quickly move to Rudy

BY KEVIN DING

The Orange County Register

After the "long shot," which was what Lakers General Manager Mitch Kupchak called this courtship of Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, the Lakers are back fully focused on Rudy Tomjanovich, who is probably just days away from being named the next Lakers coach.

Kupchak said Monday that he "probably" would be hiring someone he already has interviewed and an announcement Wednesday, Thursday or Friday was "absolutely a possibility."

"We're disappointed to some degree that Coach K won't be coming to Los Angeles . . . but in the process we've identified several candidates — some of which you are aware of — and frankly, all the candidates identified would make great choices," Kupchak said.

Tomjanovich, who already has been interviewed, remains absolutely convinced this is the job for him, even after some slight wavering in recent days.

According to an associate of Tomjanovich's, Kupchak again contacted the former Houston Rockets coach after Krzyzewski said no to the Lakers early Monday morning. Kupchak and Tomjanovich talked repeatedly throughout the day, and Tomjanovich's time on hold last week wasn't enough for him to lose interest in the position.

But it is reasonable to assume that the Lakers' colossal contact offer to Krzyzewski will tilt negotiations on a deal with Tomjanovich toward a higher end; the Lakers and Tomjanovich are entering the negotiations stage.

Before Tomjanovich stepped down as Rockets coach in 2003, he settled the two years and \$12 million remaining on his coaching contract for less. The Lakers' five-year, \$30 million contract was much less than just signed.

"I would hope to be much farther along in our coaching search in the next 48 hours," Kupchak said.

Tomjanovich, 55, stepped down from his post in Houston after being treated for bladder cancer; the Lakers have been attempting to verify that Tomjanovich's health is now good.

Tomjanovich has spent all 34 years of his career in professional basketball with the Rockets. But unlike Krzyzewski or former Lakers coach Pat Riley, who also has been interviewed, Tomjanovich consistently has indicated eagerness for the Lakers' job.

Kupchak said there would be no announcement Tuesday on the search. He acknowledged that the coach has taken longer than he wanted, delayed because Krzyzewski was running a training camp last Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday — and thus couldn't

"We're disappointed to some degree that Coach K won't be coming to Los Angeles . . . but in the process we've identified several candidates . . . and frankly, all the candidates identified would make great choices"

Mitch Kupchak
Lakers GM

meet with Kupchak until Thursday.

The Lakers now figure that the holdup caused by chasing Krzyzewski won't cost them anything with regard to Tomjanovich besides perhaps some dollars.

Kupchak was clear Monday that the Lakers are moving forward with what they were doing before pursuing Krzyzewski.

"I do have a concise and precise list," Kupchak said of the coaching candidates.

Kupchak said he has discussed the candidates' names with Kobe Bryant, who is a free agent, and with representatives of Shaquille O'Neal, who has asked to be traded — though indications are O'Neal's people are now out of the loop. Kupchak said he has not spoken with Bryant in about two weeks or with O'Neal since season's end.

Since Magic Johnson, Kupchak said, "star players have been consulted here in major decisions. That's not unusual."

Kupchak added that there is nothing he can do about the perception that Bryant is orchestrating the Lakers' decisions with the leverage of his free agency. There is an ongoing assumption within the organization that Bryant will eventually re-sign, even without sleepless nights until he actually expresses interest.

Asked if his belief that the club will re-sign Bryant has changed in any way, Kupchak said: "No more certain and no more uncertain, to be honest with you."

"Like many of our fans," Kupchak said, "I'll have several sleepless nights until he actually makes his decision."

According to a Denver Nuggets team source, General Manager Kiki Vandeweghe flew to Los Angeles on Monday to meet with Bryant.

Senators sign Hasek, hope he delivers Cup

The Associated Press

OTTAWA — Dominik Hasek signed with the Ottawa Senators, who hope the 39-year-old goaltender can return to the form that made him one of the NHL's greats.

The Senators announced the signing Tuesday, ending weeks of speculation. They received permission from

Detroit to speak with Hasek even before the Czech star became an unrestricted free agent last Thursday.

"Ottawa was my first choice and I was very excited when my agent called back and said they were very interested in me," Hasek said at a news conference. "And today I'm here."

The contract is for one year with an option for a second and will pay Hasek a base salary of \$2 million with a bonus of \$1 million if the Senators win the Stanley Cup, according to The Canadian Press.

"It's no surprise to play for a team that I believe can win the Cup," Hasek said. "And I believe that with my help, all together, we can do it."

It's no surprise that Hasek liked the situation in Ottawa, given the Senators' talented roster and his relationship with General Manager John Muckler, who was the GM for five seasons in Buffalo when Hasek was at the peak of his career.

The Senators welcomed Hasek by having Jason Spezza give up his No. 39 to the goalie. Spezza will now wear No. 19.

It became clear the Senators were interested in Hasek when they traded goalie Patrick Lalime to the St. Louis Blues during the NHL entry draft on June 27.

Hasek is a two-time league MVP and won six Vezina Trophies, given to the league's best goaltender, in nine years with the



Sabres. He also led the Czech Republic to the gold medal in the 1998 Nagano Olympics.

He joined the Red Wings in July 2001, winning his first Stanley Cup 11 months later and then retiring.

He ended his one year-retirement last season, but he played in just 14 games — going 8-3-2 with a 2.07 goals against average and a .907 save percentage — with Detroit before a chronic groin injury ended his year. He had groin surgery this spring to fix the problem.

The Red Wings told Hasek they weren't interested in having him back, deciding to stick with Curtis Joseph and Manny Legace.

Renney to remain Rangers coach

NEW YORK — Tom Renney will remain coach of the New York Rangers after taking the job on an interim basis in February when he replaced Glen Sather.

The Rangers removed Renney's interim designation Tuesday and said he will also keep his title as vice president of player development.

Sather, the president and general manager, lauded Renney for his "wealth of knowledge and a tremendous work ethic."

Renney went 5-11-0-4 after taking over from Sather, who stepped down on Feb. 25 to focus solely on being the general manager of the struggling club.

With Renney behind the bench, Sather engineered the dismantling of the expensive, under-achieving team. Despite having the NHL's highest payroll, the Rangers failed to make the playoffs for a league-high seventh straight year — setting a team record.

Renney, formerly a head coach with Vancouver, served as New York's director of player personnel and vice president of player development before joining Sather's coaching staff at the start of last season.



Boston Red Sox knuckleballer Tim Wakefield is 4-5 with a 4.27 ERA this season.

Reeling Red Sox need pitcher

Other than top two, Boston's rotation has been dismal

BY CHARLES ODOM

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — It isn't tough to figure out how to fix the Boston Red Sox — acquire another quality starting pitcher.

Now.

When Pedro Martinez and Curt Schilling start, Boston is 23-11. When anyone else starts, the reeling Red Sox are 20-26, a big reason Boston is eight games behind the New York Yankees in the AL East.

"Every team is looking for starting pitchers," Boston General Manager Theo Epstein said Sunday after Derek Lowe wasted a 4-0 lead in a 10-4 loss to the Atlanta Braves.

While Schilling is 11-4 with a 3.08 ERA in his first season with the Red Sox and Martinez is 8-3 with a 3.74 ERA, it gets pretty ugly after that. The rest of the rotation includes Tim Wakefield (4-5, 4.27), Bronson Arroyo (2-7

— including 0-6 since May 15 — 4.50) and Lowe (6-8, 6.02).

Byung-Hyun Kim, 1-1 with a 6.17 ERA in three starts with Boston, was sent to the minors on May 11 and could be an option if he regains form.

After Lowe's miserable performance Sunday, Red Sox manager Terry Francona was asked whether returning Lowe to the bullpen was an option.

"Who are you going to start?" he asked. "You come up with a guy who can win a lot of games."

Epstein acquired two pitchers last week, making separate deals for Jimmy Anderson and Brandon Puffer.

Anderson, 25-47 in his career, was quickly added to the Boston bullpen, after spending the first part of the season starting for the Chicago Cubs' Triple-A Iowa farm team. He worked primarily as a starter for Pittsburgh and Cincinnati from 1999-2003.

Puffer worked strictly in relief

in his three seasons with Houston and San Diego.

While Nomar Garciaparra, Trot Nixon and Bill Mueller have returned from injuries, all three have been well short of their past form.

If the losing doesn't stop soon, the Red Sox could drop out of the wild-card race, too. Boston is three games back of Texas, the AL wild-card leader, but with an opportunity to make up lots of ground before the AL First Series.

"We are playing teams that are at this time ahead of us in the wild-card race the next 10 days," Schilling said.

The Red Sox, who have lost 10 of 14, returned home Sunday night and open a three-game series Tuesday against AL-West leading Oakland, the team Boston beat in the first round of last year's playoffs after losing the first two games.

The Rangers follow the Athletics for a weekend series at Fenway Park.

Rangers' Rogers becomes first 12-game winner in majors

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Overcoming an injured hamstring, Kenny Rogers became the first 12-game winner in the major leagues.

Rogers allowed seven hits in 5 1/2 innings Monday night, winning his eighth straight decision and leading the Texas Rangers over the Cleveland Indians 8-3.

Two days earlier, Rogers (12-2) hurt his right leg while shagging fly balls in the outfield.

"It made it hard to throw a pitch," Rogers said. "I really didn't have a clue of where the ball was going. Not even close. I was lucky to make it through five. I couldn't even land on it."

"I'm just glad they didn't punt on me. I was limited. Hopefully, in five days it will be better."



Rogers, who hasn't lost since May 9, said if his leg doesn't improve he would consider skipping next week's All-Star Game in Houston.

"It's not going to do something that's going to hinder me in the second half of the season," Rogers said.

Alfonso Soriano hit a two-run homer for the Rangers, who are 12-5 since June 18.

C.C. Sabathia (5-4) was rusty in his first start since June 26, giving up six runs and eight hits in three innings. He, too, was picked for the All-Star Game.

Sabathia, who missed a turn because of a sore left shoulder, entered with a league-leading 2.77 ERA, but it rose to 3.23.

Francisco Cordero pitched the ninth for his 25th save.

Yankees 10, Tigers 3: Alex Rodriguez, Gary Sheffield, Bernie Williams and Ruben Sierra homered for the Yankees.

Jason Giambi, who hadn't started since June 26 because of intestinal parasites, put New York ahead with an RBI single in the first at Yankee Stadium.

Jon Lieber (6-5) pitched shutout ball into the seventh and sent Detroit to its fifth straight loss. Tigers reliever Esteban Yan was ejected after throwing over the

head of Rodriguez, who hit his 20th homer in a six-run second off Nate Robertson (7-4).

Twins 9, Royals 0: Brad Radke (5-5) pitched a four-hitter at the Metrodome for his ninth career shutout and first win since May 22. He had been 0-2 in his previous seven starts.

Kansas City has lost six straight for the second time this year, and its 29-51 record is the franchise's worst after 80 games.

Jimmy Gobble (4-6) allowed six runs and nine hits in 4 1/2 innings, dropping to 0-2 with an 8.05 ERA in four starts against the Twins this season.

Orioles 4-8, Devil Rays 2-2: Dave Borkowski took a shutout into the ninth inning of his first

major league appearance since 2001, and Jerry Hairston had four hits and four runs at Camden Yards as Baltimore completed a day-night sweep.

In the opener, Daniel Cabrera and two relievers limited Tampa Bay to four hits, and Baltimore got consecutive two-out RBI doubles in the seventh from Luis Matus and Tim Lincecum Jr. off Devon Brazelton (2-1).

Tampa Bay, which has lost three straight after winning 19 of 23, had only 10 hits in the doubleheader.

Borkowski (1-0) came within two outs of his first complete game in 14 career starts.

B.J. Ryan (3-2) won the opener, and Jorge Julio worked the ninth for his 12th save.

Baltimore's Mora on DL

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Melvin Mora was sent on 15-day disabled list Monday by the Baltimore Orioles, who figured the third baseman needed at least two weeks to recover from a hamstring injury. Mora missed the last month with a sprained ligament in his left foot, then returned to play in three games before straining his right hamstring running out a grounder Friday night in Philadelphia.

Mora started the day ranked second in the AL with a .347 batting average. He was also third in the league with 60 runs and third with a .433 on-base percentage.

His absence was easier for the Orioles' tolerant clubhouse of the fine play of David Newhan, who was hitting .417 and playing solid third base since joining Baltimore on June 18.

Schilling would cost \$50,000 for All-Star start

NEW YORK — For Curt Schilling, starting next week's All-Star Game would be a bonus — a \$50,000 bonus.

The Boston Red Sox pitcher would receive that amount if American League manager Joe Torre selects him to start against the National League in Houston on July 13, according to a survey of contracts by The Associated Press.

Oakland's Mark Mulder, 11-2 with a 2.95 ERA, remains the AL starter with Houston's Roger Clemens the probable starter for the NL.

Schilling, 11-4 with a 3.08 ERA, already is a winner at the bank for Under the contract he personally negotiated last November when he was traded from Arizona to Boston. Schilling receives a \$100,000 bonus for his selection to the AL squad. The deal calls for the six-time All-Star to receive an additional \$50,000 if he starts the game.

Forty-three players earned \$2.05 million between six players will receive \$100,000 each. San Francisco's Barry Bonds, Anaheim's Vladimir Guerrero, the Yankees' Alex Rodriguez, Detroit's Ivan Rodriguez, Cleveland's C.C. Sabathia and Schilling.

A's Chavez gets two hits in first rehab game

FRESNO, Calif. — Jose Chavez got two hits and scored two runs in his first rehab game for Triple-A Sacramento on Monday night.

Oakland's star third baseman, who broke his right hand June 1 when he was hit by a pitch, played designated hitter and batted while facing pitcher for the first time five weeks.

He wore a padded batting glove on his hand for the game against the Fresno Grizzlies.

Chavez initially was expected to miss six-to-eight weeks but said he had been taking shots in his arm twice a day for the first three weeks to help his bone heal faster.

Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League									
East Division					Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB	
NY	47	38	.553		MIN	47	34	.578	1 1/2
BOS	43	43	.500	1 1/2	CHG	44	40	.524	1 1/2
TAM	36	49	.424	11 1/2	STL	42	42	.500	2 1/2
OAK	36	46	.439	16	KAN	39	45	.463	16 1/2
TOR	35	49	.413	16 1/2					
West Division					National League				
W	L	Pct	GB		ATL	47	34	.578	1 1/2
OAK	46	34	.573	1 1/2	FLA	44	40	.524	1 1/2
SEA	42	40	.512	2 1/2	SD	39	45	.463	16 1/2
ANA	32	50	.390	14 1/2	CHG	44	40	.524	1 1/2
LAA	32	50	.390	14 1/2	SF	42	40	.512	2 1/2
					ARI	32	50	.390	14 1/2
Monday									
DET	47	34	.578	1 1/2	PHI	47	34	.578	1 1/2
BAL	44	40	.524	1 1/2	PIT	44	40	.524	1 1/2
BOS	43	43	.500	1 1/2	CIN	42	42	.500	2 1/2
TAM	36	49	.424	11 1/2	STL	42	42	.500	2 1/2
OAK	36	46	.439	16	KAN	39	45	.463	16 1/2
TOR	35	49	.413	16 1/2					
Tuesday's games									
DET	47	34	.578	1 1/2	PHI	47	34	.578	1 1/2
BAL	44	40	.524	1 1/2	PIT	44	40	.524	1 1/2
BOS	43	43	.500	1 1/2	CIN	42	42	.500	2 1/2
TAM	36	49	.424	11 1/2	STL	42	42	.500	2 1/2
OAK	36	46	.439	16	KAN	39	45	.463	16 1/2
TOR	35	49	.413	16 1/2					
Wednesday's games									
DET	47	34	.578	1 1/2	PHI	47	34	.578	1 1/2
BAL	44	40	.524	1 1/2	PIT	44	40	.524	1 1/2
BOS	43	43	.500	1 1/2	CIN	42	42	.500	2 1/2
TAM	36	49	.424	11 1/2	STL	42	42	.500	2 1/2
OAK	36	46	.439	16	KAN	39	45	.463	16 1/2
TOR	35	49	.413	16 1/2					
Thursday's games									
DET	47	34	.578	1 1/2	PHI	47	34	.578	1 1/2
BAL	44	40	.524	1 1/2	PIT	44	40	.524	1 1/2
BOS	43	43	.500	1 1/2	CIN	42	42	.500	2 1/2
TAM	36	49	.424	11 1/2	STL	42	42	.500	2 1/2
OAK	36	46	.439	16	KAN	39	45	.463	16 1/2
TOR	35	49	.413	16 1/2					
Friday's games									
DET	47	34	.578	1 1/2	PHI	47	34	.578	1 1/2
BAL	44	40	.524	1 1/2	PIT	44	40	.524	1 1/2
BOS	43	43	.500	1 1/2	CIN	42	42	.500	2 1/2
TAM	36	49	.424	11 1/2	STL	42	42	.500	2 1/2
OAK	36	46	.439	16	KAN	39	45	.463	16 1/2
TOR	35	49	.413	16 1/2					
Saturday's games									
DET	47	34	.578	1 1/2	PHI	47	34	.578	1 1/2
BAL	44	40	.524	1 1/2	PIT	44	40	.524	1 1/2
BOS	43	43	.500	1 1/2	CIN	42	42	.500	2 1/2
TAM	36	49	.424	11 1/2	STL	42	42	.500	2 1/2
OAK	36	46	.439	16	KAN	39	45	.463	16 1/2
TOR	35	49	.413	16 1/2					
Sunday's games									
DET	47	34	.578	1 1/2	PHI	47	34	.578	1 1/2
BAL	44	40	.524	1 1/2	PIT	44	40	.524	1 1/2
BOS	43	43	.500	1 1/2	CIN	42	42	.500	2 1/2
TAM	36	49	.424	11 1/2	STL	42	42	.500	2 1/2
OAK	36	46	.439	16	KAN	39	45	.463	16 1/2
TOR	35	49	.413	16 1/2					



San Diego Padres starter Brian Lawrence pitches in the first inning against the Houston Astros on Monday in San Diego. Lawrence earned his 10th win in the Padres' 2-1 victory.

Lawrence outduels Rocket, boosts San Diego into first

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Brian Lawrence is going to remember this one for a long time.

He outpitched Roger Clemens — a Texan, just like him — throwing eight strong innings Monday night for his 10th win of the season in the Padres' 2-1 victory over Houston.

"To come out on the winning side, and knowing you battled with one of the best ever, it was awesome," Lawrence said.

Ryan Klecko singled in the go-ahead run with one out in the eighth and Trevor Hoffman pitched the ninth for his 21st save in 23 chances to put the Padres in first place in the NL West by a half game.

Lawrence (10-5) allowed just one run on five hits in eight innings, and has won at least 10 games for the third year in a row.

But this was his first game against the Rocket.

"It's something growing up and watching this guy, being from Texas myself and knowing where he came from, and doing the things he's done, it's almost an honor to be able to go up against a guy like that," Lawrence said.

Clemens had never faced the Padres, and he held them to three hits and one run in seven innings, striking out six.

He touched his right knee after throwing his final warmup pitch in the fifth inning, and manager Jimmy Williams and the trainer came out to check on him.

"It got caught back in the rubber a little bit," Clemens said. "It was a burning feeling. I was able to work through that, so it's not a big deal."

Clemens, who walked four, retired 11 of the first 12 batters before allowing the Padres to tie it. Klecko walked, took second on Terrence Long's single and scored when Jay Payton singled.

Klecko moved into the cleanup spot after Phil Nevin went on the disabled list Monday because of arthroscopic surgery on his right knee.

"It's one of those games it's nice to be a part of," Klecko said. "Seeing Clemens go out there and pitch, and we got the win. They both threw good games, and it's nice to get a hit to go through the hole there and help the team win."

Prospect 3, Marlins 1: World Series MVP Josh Beckett went back on the disabled list after leaving his start at home against Pittsburgh.

NL Roundup Beckett (4-5), who hadn't started since June 17 because of a lower back strain, was pulled after four innings because of a blister. He allowed two

earned runs on five hits in his 73-pitch outing.

Kip Wells (4-5) won for the first time since May 1, allowing four hits and striking out eight for his first win in eight starts.

José Mesa pitched the ninth for his 21st save in 22 chances.

Phillies 6, Mets 5: Tom Glavine (7-6) gave up six runs and 10 hits in six innings in his worst outing this season. Richard Hidalgo set a team record by homering in his fifth consecutive game for visiting New York.

Pat Burrell had two hits and two RBIs and Billy Wagner finished with a perfect ninth for his 13th save in 15 chances.

Braves 11, Expos 4: Andruw Jones hit a three-run homer in a six-run first inning and Chipper Jones had four RBIs in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Atlanta sent 16 batters to the plate in the first two innings and built an 8-0 lead. Atlanta (41-41) reached .500 for the first time since June 12 (39-30).

Rockies 7, Giants 4: Jonny Bonamit hit a two-run double and vesting Colorado stretched a winning streak to four for the first time since last July 25-29.

Burnitz is batting .462 (6-for-13) this season at San Francisco, where Colorado had lost nine straight.

Shawn Chacon pitched the ninth for his 18th save.

Brewers 1, Cubs 0: All-Star Ben Sheets struck out 12 in Milwaukee and Craig Counsell hit his second home run of the season.

Sheets (8-5) gave up four hits in seven innings to beat Matt Clement (7-7), who walked a season-high six. Clement struck out 10 in seven innings and allowed just three hits.

Cardinals 4, Reds 1: Edgar Renteria and Scott Rolen drove in two runs each, and Albert Pujols had three hits for St. Louis at home.

Backed by his trio of All-Star infielders, Chris Carpenter (9-3) struck out eight and walked none in seven-plus innings. Jason Irahien struck out three outs for his 19th save. St. Louis is an NL-best 50-32.

White Sox hung out to dry by farcical All-Star voting

It's one thing to get dissed by fans. It's another to get dissed by players, managers and Major League Baseball officials.

If All-Star Game voting were open to one-celled organisms, there's a pretty good chance the Chicago White Sox would get dissed by them too.

Esteban Loaiza, who is not even the Sox's best pitcher this season, likely will be the franchise's only representative at the July 13 All-Star Game. And he probably made it because each team has to have at least one player in the game.

It's not a travesty or an outrage or anything requiring anti-rashioning outfit. It's just stupid. And it's invisibility as usual for the Sox.

If there were any sort of cosmic justice, the Sox would have beaten the Cubs on Sunday night. Carlos Lee's ninth-inning home run to tie the game would have been a springboard to victory. The Sox wouldn't have lost 2-1 when Damaso Marte walked in the winning run. They wouldn't have been swept by the Cubs either.

But the Sox and justice aren't on the best terms right now.

At last glance, the Sox were in first place in the American League Central Division. One would think that should count for something. At last glance, the Sox were one of the best hitting teams in baseball.

One would think that should count for something too.

One apparently has difficulty with math because one of that counts for anything.

If the Sox are looking for any more motivation — if they're looking for more reasons to feel neglected, abused and unloved — this latest slap in the face would seem to prove it.

"That's pretty rare to have only one guy from a first-place team," Cubs manager Dusty Baker said. "Usually a second-division team has [that little representation]."

The 39-41 Indians have the best players on the AL team. The Indians are the living, breathing essence of the second division.

Did the Sox get dissed? "I think so," Loaiza said. "I can't say a lot about it, but I think we did."

Fans voted for the eight starting position players, and the simple truth is that the Sox weren't going to fare well in that part of the selection process. They don't get a lot of votes. In fact, the Sox don't have a national following. The players who have done well in the first half of the season.

Snakebitten: No saving this streak

Snakebitten, from BACK PAGE

During the streak, Gagne blew the lead in the 2003 All-Star Game when he allowed a home run to the Texas Rangers' Hank Blalock, but that exhibition game didn't count in the statistics.

Gagne's record was 30 more than the previous mark of 54, set by Tom Gordon for Boston from April 19, 1998 to June 5, 1999.

The Montreal native set the mark Sept. 2 against Houston, part of his perfect 25-save season last year. He has 21 this season.

"I've got a job to do tomorrow. You can't worry about today," Gagne said. "You've got to start all over every day."

Arizona's Steve Finley hit his 20th homer, a three-run shot in the third inning. Olinde Saez hit a three-run homer for the Dodgers, and Milton Bradley hit a two-run drive.

Wilson Alvarez of the Dodgers allowed three runs and five hits over six innings in his last start, since May 23. Alvarez was back in the rotation because of Hideo Nomo's rotator cuff injury.

Rich Morrisey



son — Paul Konerko, Frank Thomas, Mark Buehrle and Shingo Takatsu — don't have the kind of outrageous statistics that would make them obvious picks by the fans.

So that left the fate of several Sox in the hands of the people who vote for the game's reserves: players, league managers, the two All-Star managers

and MLB officials.

"They don't think much of the Sox either. That doesn't say a whole lot for the experts doing the voting, does it? You can look at the numbers and make all the logical, analytical judgments you want, but it's hard to get past the fact that the Sox are No. 1 in the AL in runs, RBIs and slugging percentage."

After the 2002 All-Star Game ended in a tie, Commissioner Bud Selig decided to add meaning to the contest. He agreed that whichever league won the annual All-Star Game would have home-field advantage in the World Series.

Seems like baseball hasn't bought into the program yet.

This latest example of dismissiveness toward the team from the South Side didn't seem to bother Sox manager Ozzie Guillen. "That's part of the game," he said. "But in your mind, you know who's an All-Star and who's not."

Konerko and Thomas are among five AL players who have one last chance to get in through Internet fan voting, which is to add one more player to the roster. But that last almost surely will go to the Yankees' Hideki Matsui because New York fans dominate the voting.

In terms of star power, the Sox aren't a sexy team. They don't have a Sammy Sosa or a Barry Bonds. They have a guy who used to be Frank Thomas, but with a lower batting average and fewer things to say. They happen to be a very good team.

And if the Sox do make the World Series, they might have to live with the idea that home-field advantage was decided, for better or worse, by a couple of lowly Indians.

Rich Morrisey is a sports columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

Arizona's Brandon Webb gave up three runs, three hits and three walks in 5 1/2 innings with seven strikeouts. He is 0-3 in six starts since June 3.

Bradley's third-inning homer, the first off Webb in 41 innings since Beltré connected on May 29, pulled the Dodgers to 3-2, and Los Angeles went ahead in the sixth when Saez greeted reliever Scott Service with his second pinch-homer this season.

It stayed 5-3 until the ninth, when fans had no reason to suspect that Gagne wouldn't hold this lead the way he had 84 times before.

He was cheered when the streak ended, again when he came off after getting the last two outs, and once more when he took a curtain call.

"The fans are so proud of what I've been doing," Gagne said.

They come out every single game and they're really into it, so I just tried to give back to them because they've been really good to me."

SPORTS



Padres sitting atop NL West
after Lawrence outguns
fellow Texan Clemens, Page 31

Snakebitten again

Gagne's record save run of 84 ends vs. D-backs

BY JOHN NADEL
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Eric Gagne's streak of 84 consecutive saves ended against the same team he couldn't hold off two years ago: the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Gagne's major league-record streak ended Monday night when he blew a two-run lead for the Los Angeles Dodgers, who came back to beat Arizona 6-5 in 10 innings.

Gagne relieved with a 5-3 lead at the start of the ninth but allowed pinch-hitter Luis Gonzalez's RBI double and Chad Tracy's run-scoring single on an 0-2 pitch that went past the glove of a diving first baseman Olmedo Saenz. Both hits came off changeups.

"I never really thought about the streak at all," Gagne said.

"I'm not really relieved about it, but it was so much fun to be a part of it."

Realizing that Gagne's streak was over, the crowd of 32,929 at Dodger Stadium gave the relief pitcher a standing ovation as he stood on the mound with his head down.

"He had a great run," Gonzalez said. "The Dodgers have had a great run of pitch-

"That's about as untouchable a streak as what DiMaggio did, Orel [Hershiser], Cal Ripken."

Sean Green
Dodgers outfielder

ers with streaks — Orel Hershiser with his scoreless inning streak, and this one with the saves.

"Gagne did a fantastic job, but finally we got over the hump to get him to blow a save out there. There was one team out there that was eventually going to break it."

Dave Roberts singled in the 10th off Greg Aquino (0-1), making his second big league appearance. Cesar Izturis sacrificed, Milton Bradley was intentionally walked, and Adrian Beltre walked, loading the bases.

Randy Choate relieved and gave up Shawn Green's sacrifice fly.

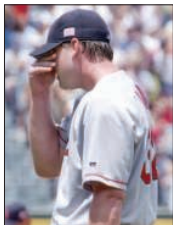
"That's about as untouchable a streak as what DiMaggio did, Orel, Cal Ripken ... There's not much you can say," Green said.

"It's not something that's going to last forever. It just seems as if it will."

Giovanni Carrara (1-0) got the win by getting the final out of the 10th.

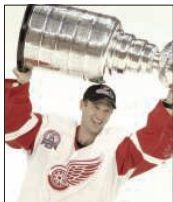
Gagne had not blown a save chance since David Dellucci hit a tying double on Aug. 26, 2002.

"I would think that everybody would want to be the one that broke the streak," Tracy said. "I mean, you know about the success he's had. But if you're intimidated, you're done already. I know that he likes to throw that changeup, and it's tough to stay back on when you see 97."



Starting pitching
has been nothing
but headache for
flailing Red Sox

Page 29



Hasek hoping to
bring Stanley Cup
to Ottawa after
signing with Sens

Page 29



Armstrong cruises
over cobblestones
while rival Mayo
takes a tumble

Page 26

Los Angeles Dodgers closer Eric Gagne looks down at his glove after blowing a save in the ninth inning against the Arizona Diamondbacks on Monday in Los Angeles. The blown save ended an 84-game save streak dating back to August 2002. "Everybody says you have to be real lucky. I was real lucky for a long time. It just came to an end," Gagne said. L.A. won 6-5 in 10 innings.

SEE SNAKEBITTEN ON PAGE 31

Lakers return focus of coaching search to Tomjanovich Page 28